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VOL. XVIII, NO. 39.

SOCIALIST THOUGHT

BROUGHT TO BEAR ON EVENTS OF THE DAY.

The Pot Calls the Kettle Black, and Boni Knocks Gould—The S. P. Posting Europe on American Conditions—Gov. Hughes Starts with Flourish and Comes Down with a Thud.

It is reported that a flash photograph was taken of Castro upon his arrival at the Esplanade Hotel in Berlin. The photograph must be a poor one, indeed, if it fails to reproduce the irrepressible smile expressive of the contempt that Castro feels for the bourgeois European interests that he knows he can buy in job lots, as he and his predecessors have done all along—always landing on top of the heap.

Count Boni de Castellane declares in a letter, read to the court in Paris, that the surroundings of his ex-brother-in-law George Gould are those of people who "learn to honor nothing but dollars," on account of which the Count demands the guardianship of his own children. Count Boni is surely right in his estimate of the George Gould entourage, but what attracted the Count to that same entourage?

Unique among millionaires, who claim that what makes a man happy, healthy and strong is to rough it and make his own fortune, is the millionaire Petroff of Moscow. Constant with his theory, and being on his death bed, he burned up his millions in bank notes, in order that his poor relatives "escape the evil of wealth." Unique is this man's conduct among millionaires. In all other instances, these praisers of "roughing it" and condemnors of wealth as a de-baser of energy, regularly give themselves the lie by taking precautions that their wealth be secured to those whom they love best.

Who would not be President of a bourgeois Republic rather than Kaiser of a feudal-bourgeois Monarchy? Teddy, rejected, curbed and ridiculed by the bourgeois capitalists of America, preserves all his bumptiousness, still is courted as a special correspondent by magazines, and arranges for a right royal hunting party in Africa. Billy, not rejected, but curbed and ridiculed by the capitalists of Germany, goes into the sulks, disposes of several of his castles, declines the offer of a torchlight parade by students on his birthday, and crawls into his shell by dining with his own guards.

An idea of the sort of information to which European comrades are treated from America by Socialist party sources may be formed from the following item in the Paris, France, "Le Socialiste" of as late as the 6th of this month, a date when, even to the most inveterate S. P. pipe-dreamers, it had become obvious that the Debs vote of this year would be very little, if at all, above the vote of 1904, to wit 435,000. Says "Le Socialiste":

"So far 600,000 votes are already counted for Debs. . . . Despite a seeming set-back, in Chicago Debs polled 200,000 more than in 1904."

If this were true, Debs should have had in Chicago 247,743 votes, he having received 47,743 votes in 1904; whereas the fact is that the 47,743 votes of 1904 dropped below 19,000 this year.

The S. P.-ites still live in the fools' paradise of imagining they can fight the battles of the American Movement in the columns of the European press.

"It is very agreeable to me to meet Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Gompers and other labor leaders here to-night," said the President-elect at the annual dinner of the National Civic Federation on the 15th of this month, with his most winsome smile. Of course the sight is agreeable to Taft. It is a guarantee, at least a promise of more such sights, indicative of more such presidential campaigns as we have just gone through, in which labor will be found so utterly disorganized as to be stampeded into voting solidly for the plutocratic capitalist class.

The experts on banking are beginning to look silly. During the campaign they "demonstrated" that the "stream line" idea of guaranteeing bank de-

posits was unpractical, and, if it were practical, was repulsively bad and not to be thought of. And now, from the bankers of all the States surrounding Oklahoma, which guarantees bank deposits, comes a long, loud and prolonged whine to the effect that they are losing 50 per cent. of their deposits, their former depositors preferring to be "unpractical" by depositing in Oklahoma—and worse yet, that they also will have to become "unpractical" and guarantee, or go up the flue!

Looked at from whatever side one may, both the President and Congress stand self-placed in a nasty light. He pointedly charged Congress with fear of the Secret Service. Thereupon, upon the first growl from Congress at the insult, he threatens dire revelations should they growl to a purpose—a blackmailer's posture; and then, as the despatches announce, "many members of Congress have suspected that through the Secret Service President Roosevelt obtained detailed reports of their private lives," whereupon Congress decides to go slow.—Such are our rulers.

A correspondence, in another column of this issue, from Comrade August Gillhaus, will convey startling information to Party members and People readers, concerning the Daily People plant. The information must startle them seeing it is startling news to this office itself. We used to think the S. P.-Trautman-Napoleon combine were our enemies. Lo, we did them injustice. How kind of them to notify us of the existence of a \$30,000 mortgage on the Daily People plant, when up to this instant we knew of no mortgage whatever; and to give us some inkling, however vague, of the day of its maturity!

"Wall Street to be Investigated!" so run the scare lines from Albany announcing the latest "Morality Move" contemplated by Governor Hughes. A spasm grips the inards of the Wall Street Pillars of Society—but only for an instant. The headlines announcing the investigation are followed by an explanation from the Governor that the purpose of the investigation is to ascertain the manner in which "illegitimate transactions" might be prevented and "legitimate business" safeguarded. Immediate relief is felt by the inards of the Pillars. There is nothing like legitimizing illegitimacy. Without that capitalism could not live 24 hours, and the Governors Hughes would have to earn their living.

The Wall Street investigation is to be conducted in secret. Wise Wall Street is of the opinion that it would be unwise to conduct the investigation publicly. And the wise Governor has wisely assented to the wise suggestion—whereupon we shall, in the end, all be none the wiser.

Secretary Wilson of the Bureau of Agriculture is loud in the announcement that the value of farm products this year was \$7,788,000,000—a billion larger than two years ago and three billions larger than in 1900. The Secretary is suspiciously silent upon the rate in which the farm laborers' wages were affected during this stupendous increase. Perhaps the facts are too awful for even the Bureau to doctor.

"What kind of people are most likely to get tuberculosis?" is one of the questions in the Tuberculosis primer for school children. The answer that follows is: "Those who are sickly and run down from other diseases; from intemperance; from poor or insufficient food; from living in dark, overcrowded rooms; or from overwork. Their weakened systems cannot resist the bacilli."—All of which could be condensed in a much shorter sentence: "The underpaid and overworked wage slave class."

Much ado is being made about the discovery of a case of peonage close to Chicago, 1,000 men being thus "held in bondage behind stockades" by three leading capitalist crooks. Why such indignation? Are there not many times 1,000 men held, right in Chicago, under essentially the same conditions? And if "stockades" is the feature of peonage, what about Homestead, one of the leading slave-pens of the newly converted free trader and distinguished gentleman upon whom King Edward has just bestowed his own august picture?

Senator Patrick H. McCarren—does anyone need to be informed of the political and otherwise malodorousness of

THE TURKISH PARLIAMENT

"Power comes from below."

This is a slogan common on the lips of reformers. On the lips of these the slogan is meant to have a particularly strong revolutionary ring. Fact is that, with the reformer, the slogan implies an error of the first water. The slogan being usually hurled at and against some existing power, it is meant for an enunciation of a new principle: it is not even a principle: it is truism.

There never was, and there is not today, any "power" that did, or does, not come from below. However despotic or "intolerable" any past or existing power; it is only from below that it came, and it is only with the consent of "below" that it continues. The instinct of the race recognizes the necessity of "power"—government—a central directing authority. According to the will of "below," that "power" has ever taken shape and ever will. The "power" that rules a people ever was, and ever will

be the kind of "power" that particular people deserve. A people's degree of civilization is gauged by the nature of the "power" which it raises, or permits. Consequently, the slogan, "Power comes from below" is a slogan hurled by a nation at itself, and by which it demands of itself that the clothes it dons—the "power" it submits to—shall fit its expanding limbs.

The Turkish parliament, just inaugurated amid the heartfelt rejoicings of the one time despotically ruled Turkish Empire, illustrates these principles.

Thirty-two years ago a parliament was established in Turkey. That "power" did not come from "below." It was a sort of Christmas present, made by the existing and legitimate "power," to a people who had not willed and enforced it. As a consequence the clothes did not fit. The incident is told of lots having been cast in the parliament of 1870 for a minority and a majority contingent; or an "administration" and an "opposition."

wing—in imitation of other parliaments. The process was ridiculous; the parliament was short-lived. "Below" had not yet reflected the "power" that consists of a parliamentary government. It is now otherwise. True to the fact that "power" comes from "below," and the Turkish people having advanced beyond the swaddling clothes of Yildiz Palace personal power, they themselves cast off the old wrappings, and themselves donned the knee-breeches of parliamentary political rule. No wonder they rejoice—what boy does not at his first knee-pants!

Power comes from below. In the measure that the Turkish people, and the rest of all of us—now at the boy's knee-pants stage of parliamentary or political power—shall come to man's estate, the political rule that now sways us, and for which alone we are fit, seeing we consent to it, will be cast off in short order, for the "toga virilis" of Industrial or Socialist Administration.

THE VOTE.

Of the S. L. P. and the S. P.

The below tables register the vote of the S. L. P. and the S. P. as officially furnished to this office by the Secretaries of States. The official reports are still missing for only 4 States—Arkansas, North Carolina, New York and Oregon.

States.	1904	1908
Alabama	853	1,399
Arizona	1,304	1,912
California	29,535	29,650
Colorado	4,304	7,974
Connecticut	4,543	5,113
Delaware	146	239
Florida	2,337	3,447
Georgia	197	584
Idaho	4,949	6,400
Illinois	69,225	34,711
Indiana	12,013	13,470
Iowa	14,847	8,287
Kansas	15,494	12,420
Kentucky	3,602	4,066
Louisiana	995	2,538
Maine	2,103	1,758
Maryland	2,247	2,223
Massachusetts	13,604	10,778
Michigan	9,941	11,586
Minnesota	11,892	14,471
Mississippi	393	975
Missouri	13,809	15,431
Montana	5,676	5,555
Nebraska	7,412	3,524
Nevada	925	2,020
New Hampshire	1,090	1,290
New Jersey	9,587	10,253
New Mexico	162	1,050
North Dakota	2,005	2,421
Ohio	36,280	33,795
Oklahoma	4,445	21,779
Pennsylvania	21,863	33,913
Rhode Island	950	1,365
South Carolina	22	100
South Dakota	3,138	2,846
Tennessee	1,354	1,870
Texas	2,791	2,870
Utah	5,767	4,895
Vermont	808	888
Virginia	218	255
Washington	10,023	14,177
West Virginia	1,572	3,679
Wyoming	1,077	1,715
Total	361,762	371,410
A decrease of 13.57		

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Total	361,762	371,410

A decrease of 9.648.

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408,230.

FACE FREEZING.

Insufficient Shelter for Unemployed in Spokane.

Spokane, Wash., December 14.—The number of unemployed and homeless in this city is so large this winter that all accommodations are taxed to their capacities. The number of cases needing relief is so large that the police officials have become alarmed at the outlook. It is feared that many who cannot be quartered during the coming months will have to face freezing this winter.

Chief Rice said yesterday that the number of men applying at the station for a place to sleep is even greater than at any time during the financial depression of last year.

"By direction of the mayor I visited all the employment agencies Saturday," said Rice, "and I found that not one had any jobs marked up on the boards. There is not an employment agent in

CHattel SLAVES.

Shoshone Tunnel Workers Are Treated No Better.

Denver, December 4.—Alexander Constantino, a Bulgarian missionary who has been making a secret investigation of the condition of workingmen of his nationality in Colorado, will report to state officers that the men working for the Colorado Central Power Company are treated like chattel slaves and are laboring and living under conditions which he characterizes as "deplorable" and "disgraceful."

Special complaint is to be made of the camp at Shoshone, near Glenwood Springs, where over a thousand men are working on a tunnel as part of the plan eventually to supply power to Denver.

A majority of these men are Bulgarians. Constantino says they are herded together like sheep, compelled to work under insanitary conditions and are not paid for when sick or injured. The missionary says that in one small room there are 150 beds or "bunks," which he says are the underground Chinamen's bunks in San Francisco.

Constantino says: "The men are compelled to work in two feet of water week or ten days, and after that are furnished with rubber boots and others are not. It depends on the men or not there are enough boots around. The men have no blankets and water is constantly dripping on their heads and shoulders. They return at night to their quarters and are compelled to wring the water out of all their clothes and let them drip on the floor. They are in constant danger from the water. I the proper precautions are not taken to prevent accidents. The food is a meager and a teaspoonful of condensed milk serves to make a quart of milk for the men when it is mixed with water."

"When I was there men were hurt and no ambulance was called. Workmen were compelled to walk some distance to a surgeon with blood streaming from their wounds and suffering intense agony. The men are paid \$2 per day and are charged 75 cents a day for their board."

"Most of these workmen say they have families in the old country and state that because of their low wages their children are starving in Bulgaria."

S. R. Carlyle of 2218 California street, states that workmen are being lured to the camp at Shoshone under false representations as to pay and working conditions. He says:

"I hired out through Allen's employment agency, paying \$2 for the job and paid half fare to the camp. I was told that I could get carpenter work at \$3.00, on the outside. When I got there I was told there was no carpenter work for me, but that I could work in the tunnel. While I was looking over the tunnel to decide whether or not I wanted to go to work, they brought out two dead men, killed by carelessness."

"When I told them I did not want the job they told me to pay my fare to Denver or I would be arrested. The trip cost me \$21, and my case is only one of many hundreds that happen daily among the employment agencies. A dollar of the men's wages is taken out for hospital care. The bunk houses are alive with vermin, and hundreds sleep on a blanket on the ground."

CONSUMPTION TRAP.

Dallas County Jail Full of Tuberculosis Germs.

Dallas, Tex., December 10.—A horrible state of affairs in the Dallas County jail was revealed in the Dallas Criminal Court when Lester Chandler was arraigned before Judge Nelms last Saturday. It was shown that the sanitary conditions of the jail were so filthy that tuberculosis germs swarmed all over the place.

Chandler was placed in prison last May, a healthy man. When brought into court Saturday for trial, Judge Nelms had to pass his case until next term of court because he was too ill with consumption contracted in jail.

Several weeks ago the same judge discharged a prisoner on his own recognizance, because he suffered with tuberculosis contracted while imprisoned.

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35,000 DEATHS

ACCIDENT, DEATH ROLL AMONG WORKINGMEN FOR 1908.

At Least Two Million Other Injuries—Most Appalling Waste of Life in Any Country—Iron and Steel Workers Suffer Most Heavily.

Washington, December 14.—Between 30,000 and 35,000 deaths and 2,000,000 injured is the accident record in the United States during the past year among workingmen, according to a bulletin on accidents issued today by the Bureau of Labor.

Of those employed in factories and workshops, it is said that probably the most exposed class are the workers in iron and steel. Fatal accidents among electricians and electric linemen and coal miners are declared to be excessive, while railway trainmen were killed in the proportion of 7.46 deaths per 1,000 employees.

The bulletin says that much that could be done for the protection of the workingman is neglected, and shows that only a few improvements have been introduced in factory practice during the last decade. It is pointed out that the possibilities for successful accident prevention have been clearly demonstrated in the experience of foreign countries.

"Granting," says the bulletin, "that the underlying conditions in European countries are often quite different and that many of our industrial accidents may be the result of ignorance, recklessness, indifference, or carelessness, the fact remains that an immense amount of human life is wasted, and a vast amount of injury is done to health and strength with resulting physical impairment, which has a very considerable economic value to the nation as a whole."

It is claimed that it should not be impossible to avert at least one-third and perhaps one-half of the accidents by intelligent and rational methods of factory inspection, legislation, and control.

FIG FOR LABOR LAWS.

Juries Almost Refuse to Convict on Them.

Albany, December 10.—The greatest difficulty in obtaining convictions in cases for violations of the labor law for overtime work of women and children is reported by John Williams, commissioner of the state labor department, in his official statement.

"During the months of September, October and November," says Commissioner Williams, "officials of the department of labor began actions in 165 cases for alleged violations of the labor law. Among the actions instituted, five were for illegal employment of children in mercantile establishments, and 27 for overtime work of women and children and illegal employment of children in canning factories."

"In practically every instance these last mentioned actions were tried before a jury, but in spite of the utmost care on the part of department officials in the preparation of their cases, no convictions were obtained, although it was shown in one instance that a woman worked 20 hours in one day. In another case there was undisputed evidence that a child of seven years was employed in a shed adjoining a canning factory."

Commissioner Williams reports that of the 165 cases instituted during the three months, 42 were disposed of in that period, as were also 77 pending cases, with total results as follows: In 28 cases, fines to the amount of \$575 were imposed; in one case of failure to provide ventilation, judgment was rendered in the state's favor for \$474.67; in 25 cases sentence was suspended; 36 were dismissed; 17 defendants were acquitted, and nine cases were withdrawn or dismissed on motion.

"Among the cases," concludes Commissioner Williams, "two were for the employment of aliens on public contract work, two for using an unsafe scaffolding, and one was against a corporation for failure to pay wages of employees weekly. One manufacturer in western New York was fined \$20 for failure to report a factory accident."

When you have read this paper, pass it on to a friend.

THE MOVEMENT ABROAD

VANDERVELDE AND THE CONGO QUESTION—SUFFRAGE IN GERMANY—RUSSIAN REPRESSION, AND THE SAME IN JAPAN.

BELGIUM.

Emil Vandervelde has announced his resignation from the Belgian Parliament because his personal convictions on the Congo question did not allow him to conform to the attitude decided upon at the last convention of the party for those of the members who should be elected. Nevertheless he yielded to the following resolution:

"The Committee of the Brussels Federation, deeming it desirable that all the Socialist deputies of Belgium take part in important votes to be taken in the Chamber, request Citizen Vandervelde to resume his seat tentatively, until the special convention of the Party shall have pronounced upon the attitude obligatory upon Socialists in regard to the Congo."

The special convention is now being called. In the meantime it has been decided not to present candidates for the Colonial Council.

GERMANY.

The Socialists of Breslau have just won three municipal seats from the Clerical-Conservatives. For ten years the Socialists had but two members in the City Hall. To-day they have five. The vote rose in one year from 3,216 to 5,511.

At Frankfurt-on-the-Oder the victory was even more striking. Five Socialists were elected by a large majority. Three more go to the by-election. The vote, which in 1906 was 690, this year was 1,160.

Enormous demonstrations were recently held in Saxony in support of the demand for Universal Suffrage and for the abolition of the present system of three-class suffrage introduced in 1896 in imitation of the three-class Prussian system; a system introduced into Prussia during the height of the reactionary period that followed on the revolution of 1848—a reaction which for many years practically killed all political life in Germany.

The demonstration in Leipzig was estimated at 70,000 to 80,000. In Dresden 40,000 to 50,000 participants, and in the other Saxon towns in similar proportions. The impression made on the bourgeois press was very great. They admit the meetings were spontaneous, the like had never been seen. In the meantime, Ministers are trying to patch up a modification of the present system, to give a proper representation to the so-called intelligent classes without creating what was admitted the present system is, viz: a purely plutocratic system.

FRANCE.

At Tivoli last week an immense demonstration, attended by over ten thousand persons, demanded the immediate release of the remaining eight prisoners at Corbell, arrested during the recent strikes. Among the speakers were Jaures, Griffuelhes, Sembat and others. The following resolution was passed: "The workers united on November 6 at the Tivoli-Vauxhall, under the presidency of the comrades

released by the indignant protests of public opinion against a unique and monstrous action, affirm their fixed intention of continuing the agitation until the liberation of the remaining eight victims still in the Corbell prison, and of organizing more and more firmly in the Confederation Generale du Travail, convinced that it is only by a strong class action that they will avoid the recurrence of similar outrages, and will realize their total emancipation."

RUSSIA.

According to Russian newspapers no less than 194 death sentences were passed during the month of September (old style). At the same time 73 persons were executed. Executions after courts-martial in 1907 numbered 677; of these 491 civilians and 19 soldiers were shot. No less than 124 executions occurred in the Baltic Provinces.

Four Socialist Members of the second Duma, who were not tried with the other members who issued the well-known Viborg manifesto, have been sentenced at St. Petersburg. One was exiled to Siberia, two were sentenced to five years penal servitude, and one to four years penal servitude.

POLAND.

Resulting from the protest in all the Polish papers against the closing of the schools at Warsaw, the Governor-General has ordered them to be opened again.

AUSTRO-HUNGARY.

Five Socialist nominees have been elected to the Vienna municipal council. They are by name Renner, Polzer, Sever, Volkert and Seltz, elected each by a vote of about 11,000.

The "Christian Socialists" got 168,600 votes and received therefore forty-five seats. The Social Democrats, with 270,000 votes received only five seats.

The campaign of the capitalist parties was most bitter.

JAPAN.

The Socialist movement in Japan is just now beset with the greatest difficulties. The active members can hardly earn a living. The police follow them everywhere, and misconstrue their every act, even those in nowise political in character. Twenty Socialists are now in prison for having voiced the class-consciousness of the Japanese proletariat. All publications are seized as they issue from the press.

Along with this, wages are falling, and exploitation increases in intensity, in proportion with the stringency of the governmental activities against Socialism. The employees have seen their percentage of what they produce sink fifteen per cent. After twelve hours of hard labor, they can hardly buy a pound of meat.

Still, the comrades have succeeded in keeping up their agitation, and they intend soon to make sure of publishing their journal by buying their own press.

LEAVING THE WRECK WITH A VENGEANCE

Chicago, Ill., December 17.—At its regular meeting held last night, the Machinists' Union No. 52, I. W. W., severed their connection with Trautman et al., and decided to join the Socialist Industrial Unionists with Headquarters in New York.

A "committee" of two, Jones and Hammond, were present. Their object was to swing this union over to the get-a-share-for-nothing bunch. But they made a flat failure. Under the head of unfinished business the question came up for final action.

The ballot sent to this union by "headquarters" was examined, and was found to be similar to the one sent out by Meyer to the members of the W. F. of M., on the I. W. W.

The Preamble was then taken up. Jones asked for the floor, stating that he and Hammond were sent as a committee, and proceeded to "argue" on the "correctness" of their new Preamble.

He "understood" political action differently from the way his colleagues did. He also "understood" it differently from what we did. But the undersigned showed him that he (Jones) contradicted and made a fool of himself. And so did the members.

Jones, finding himself up against it, again took the floor, and read a statement drawn up by "Headquarters" which was full of "arguments." He read it so long that the members got tired of it. A point of order was raised. The undersigned asked the comrades to give him all the rope he wanted. The chairman so ruled. And he got the rope and hanged himself.

The "committeeman" proceeded with his "opinion," saying that the I. W. W. was dead, because Bohn et al. quit the organization.

He was very mad the way the fight in New York turned out, seeing they couldn't "take and hold" the Daily People plant, I suppose.

Oh, yes. Then he had it about Daniel De Leon, you know. That's an awful man. Why, he's no good. Proof? Well, "Headquarters" have no use for him, (and the labor fakir doesn't like him, either.)

Concluding his long "statement" and "argument," Jones tried to justify the actions of the convention and the slugging of Francis, etc.

One of the members took the floor and mopped it with Jones and his arguments. "Yes," said the comrade, "Sherman paid \$7 per day for slugging. But 'Headquarters' got the slugging done for nothing. And among the sluggers you were one."

Comrade Lingenefer was then given the floor. He told Jones where to get off at on the S. L. P. proposition. Among other things, Lingenefer said: "One of your 'Fellow-Workers' stole a pair of shoes from another of your 'Fellow-Workers'; he's upheld to-day by 'Headquarters.' And so are some of their heelers in New York. An old-time friend of 'Headquarters,' Mr. McIntosh, was put in jail for counterfeiting. Is McIntosh any worse than those mentioned?"

After a general discussion which lasted over two hours, the following motions were then carried unanimously:

"First—That we sever our connection with 310 Bush Temple, and join hands with the Socialist Industrial Unionists."

"Second—That the Secretary apply for a charter to General Secretary C. H. Chase, and ask for general information."

"Third—That 310 Bush Temple be notified of the action taken, and that they return the \$5 loaned to them on certificates."

At 11 p. m. the meeting adjourned with three ringing cheers for the Manifesto and Preamble adopted at the first convention, and for the revolutionists who couldn't be led astray by "Headquarters," as is shown by their manly, brave act toward saving the movement.

Max Ledermann.

PRACTICAL INSTRUCTION.

The following five pamphlets will give the reader the ground work of the principles and tactics of the Socialist movement:

1. Socialism.
2. What Means This Strike?
3. Reform or Revolution.
4. Burning Question of Trades Unionism.
5. Socialism Versus Anarchism.

The lot with "Course of Reading" catalogue sent for 25 cents.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO., 28 City Hall Place, New York City.

M. RUTHER, Manufacturer of Fine Cigars, Holyoke, Mass.

THE LYING CAPITALIST NEWSPAPERS

THE WORKING-CLASS MUST LEARN NEVER TO DEPEND ON THEM FOR INFORMATION.

By Arm and Hammer.

Barely a month has passed since the awful Radbod mine explosion in Germany, when 360 miners lost their lives through the sheer fault of the mine managers.

A month is a long time, in a way, but it is not yet long enough to make us forget the dispatches which were printed in the capitalist papers of America about the catastrophe.

First came the stunning report of the disaster, bodies penned underground, wives and mothers fainting and going insane above ground.

Next day the admission, more or less haltingly made, that the awful holocaust was the fault out and out of the mine owners and mine managers, who had taken absolutely no measures to protect the miners' lives.

But then, *gloria tibi*, came the news that the grief and pain-stricken miners had been pacified. Prince Eitel Friedrich, scion of the Hohenzollerns, had flown to the scene as a special envoy from his august Kaiser pater, had shaken hands with the miners, and all was forgiven.

Precisely as it appeared in the New York "Sun" of Nov. 15, the story was:

PRINCE EITEL CALMS MINERS.

Kaiser's Son Hears Complaint That Neglect Caused Hamm Disaster.

Berlin, Nov. 14.—Prince Eitel Friedrich arrived at Hamm this morning. He drove at once to the scene of the Radbod mine disaster in an automobile. There was considerable difficulty in reaching the machine house, which was surrounded by a shouting crowd demanding admittance.

The Prince agreed to receive a deputation of three miners. When these had been chosen and admitted, they related their grievances, declaring that lack of proper precautions caused the disaster. The Prince shook hands with the men and promised to report matters to the Kaiser.

A very plausible story this is, to be sure. Imagine a village of miners, who had just seen 360 of their beloved com-

rades swallowed up in the bottomless pit of a mine-company's greed, being calmed and pacified by a mere princely "laying-on-of-hands," and a promise to report back to Vater Kaiser in Berlin!

Too plausible to be true it is, and lo, here is the disproof of it.

On Nov. 14, one day before the "Sun's" story appeared, the edition of the New York Herald printed in Paris, France, contained the following:

KAISER'S SON IS SHOUTED DOWN BY MINERS OF WESTPHALIA.

Colliers of Radbod Mine Refuse to Listen to Prince Friedrich Eitel.

Hamm, Westphalia (via Berlin), Friday.—Prince Eitel Friedrich, who has arrived here as a representative of the Kaiser, tried to address the miners at the Radbod mine to-day, but they refused to allow him to speak.

The miners shouted "Down with Bulow! Away with him!" and sang the "Marseillaise" and raised shouts for better protection of miners in the mines.

Quite a different account, is it not? And if not so "plausible," at least a more believable one. No miraculous laying-on of princely hands here, to calm the troubled waters of righteous indignation; no "deputation of three miners" to the princely presence; no "calming" upon promise to "report the matters to the Kaiser."

But instead, angry cries, cries that have right behind them, and will not hush for every princely frown: refusals to allow his princeliness to speak, even, and above all, loud, determined singings of La Marseillaise, the Workingman's hymn!

Well, might the American capitalist papers lie, and twist, and shift ground, and do what a capitalist paper can, to conceal such rousing news. It is too revolutionary for the American working class! For our illegal profits' sake, don't let them know of this! They, too, might take to singing La Marseillaise, and howling down stuffed aristocrats, and worse.

The moral of which, to the workingman, is, trust not the papers of the capitalist class; your enemies.

POOR MIDDLE CLASS.

It is not only through the extension of large production that the capitalist system causes the condition of the proletariat to become more and more that of the whole population. It brings this about also through the circumstance that the condition of the wage-worker, engaged in large production, strikes the keynote for the condition of wage-workers in all other branches. The conditions under which the latter work and live are revolutionized; the advantage which they may have over those employed in capitalist industry, are turned into so many disadvantages under the influence of the latter.

To illustrate, in those localities where mechanics still work for, and board and lodge with the master mechanic, the poor board and lodging which the wage-worker, employed in a capitalist industry, can afford become a pretext for the master mechanic, to reduce both the board and the comforts of lodging which his workmen enjoy.

Again, formerly the long period required for apprenticeship was a means to prevent the overstocking of a trade; to-day, the system of apprenticeship, conducted under the guise of benevolence in many of our large cities, and called trade schools, notably in New York and Pittsburgh, is one of the most effective means to overrun many a trade with cheap labor, and to knock the bread from the mouths of the adult laborers. In this respect also, as in so many others, those institutions, which, under the system of small production, were sensible and benevolent, have under the influence of the capitalist system, become either nonsensical or hurtful.

There is another, and very extensive domain on which the capitalist system of large production exercises its influence of turning the population into proletarians—the domain of commerce. The large stores have begun to bear, and are now bearing heavily on the small ones. The number of small stores does not, therefore, necessarily diminish. On the contrary, it increases. The small store is the last refuge of the bankrupt small producer. Were the small stores actually crowded out, the ground would be wholly taken from under the feet of the small traders; they would be forthwith thrust below the class of the proletariat—into the slums; they would be turned into beggars, vagabonds and candidates for the penitentiary! Such in fact is, to a great extent, the evolution of the small trader. But it is not in the reduction of the number of small stores.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

By H. S. K.

The busy world shoves angrily aside the man who stands with arms akimbo set.

Until occasion tells him what to do; And he who waits to have his task marked out

Shall die and leave his errand unfulfilled.

—Lowell.

Despite the severe struggle of the past year class-conscious Socialists are not in the least discouraged. The future is to them an open book, the reading of which inspires to buckling down, to harder work, if need be.

That Taft tidal wave of prosperity that was to have swept all before it must have done just that very thing, even sweeping prosperity out of sight.

A professional atheist never wearies of telling me that Socialism can never succeed so long as religious superstition lasts. He, however, upholds the economic superstition under which the workers bend their backs to the brigand capitalist class.

When it comes to being fleeced, it makes little difference whether the fleecer is a churchianity upholder, or a professional atheist. Andy Carnegie as a taskmaster was no easier than John D. Rockefeller.

Perhaps a fleeced worker should scorn the pretensions of the professional atheist more than the pretensions of the churchman. The atheist labor skinner, in laying claims to a noble purpose, may fool the workers.

The Socialist party, soaked in the habits of fakirism, before election uttered a lot of bluff, brag, bombast and braggadocio on its hoped-for 1,500,000

votes. It was just like the claims of a Gompers-on-the eve of a strike.

Then came election day with its real call of "Time," and since then the S. P. leaders, like a Gompers when the strike is lost, are busy explaining just how it happened.

But what became of all the Christian Socialist votes? Did the advocates of the antiquated economics of Christianity, vote then, for the devil—capitalism?

Some men imagine, that when they tumble down an earthquake should follow. They get as mad as wet hens when they find that they made no more contraction than a pea dropping from a pod.

The tariff hearing in Washington is playing high old jinks with that heavy old adage of capitalism, "No one can become rich by legislation." One set cries, "Ruin," another set cries "Prosperity," as their interests demand tariff legislation, or free trade legislation.

"Make Socialism palatable," say the kid-gloved inanes. It is not too robust for the working class. To whom should it be made "palatable," then? To the capitalist, and middle classes?

The capitalist class we know, and we also know that he who would lean on the middle class fancies a broken reed can give support. Middle class numbers are becoming slighter day by day. As a class it has ever been a hollow and false friend to the workingman.

Any organization of labor, political or economic, that does not blazon on its banner, Emancipation of Labor; and strive with might and main for the overthrow of the system that robs the working class has no place in the Labor Movement. It is a capitalist mischief, palatable to capitalism.

against the leasing of the penitentiary iron works, and ask the abolition of the present attempt to manufacture engines, boilers, saw-mill machinery, or any other finished product in the state penitentiary in competition with free labor, not only from a business standpoint, but a humanitarian and patriotic standpoint as well, believing it to be undemocratic in principle and contrary to all justice and equity."

MOUTH PRINCIPLE, MEAN PROFITS.

Austin, Texas, December 19.—The Texas Metal Trade Association has submitted to Gov. Campbell a protest against the proposition to lease the State's iron mines and furnace to private individuals to be run by convict labor. The protest says in part: "We make most emphatic protest

PLATFORM

Adopted at the National Convention of the Socialist Labor Party, July, 1904, and Re-adopted at the National Convention, July, 1908.

The Socialist Labor Party of America, in convention assembled, reasserts the inalienable right of man to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

We hold that the purpose of government is to secure to every citizen the enjoyment of this right; but taught by experience we hold furthermore that such right is illusory to the majority of the people, to wit, the working class, under the present system of economic inequality that is essentially destructive of THEIR life, THEIR liberty and THEIR happiness.

We hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be controlled by the whole people; but again taught by experience we hold furthermore that the true theory of economics is that the means of production must likewise be owned, operated and controlled by the people in common. Man cannot exercise his right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness without the ownership of the land on and the tool with which to work. Deprived of these, his life, his liberty and his fate fall into the hands of the class that owns those essentials for work and production.

We hold that the existing contradiction between the theory of democratic government and the fact of a despotic economic system—the private ownership of the natural and social opportunities—divides the people into two classes: the Capitalist Class and the Working Class; throws society into the convulsions of the Class Struggle; and perverts government to the exclusive benefit of the Capitalist Class.

Thus labor is robbed of the wealth which it alone produces, is denied the means of self-employment, and by compulsory idleness in wage slavery, is even deprived of the necessities of life.

Against such a system the Socialist Labor Party raises the banner of revolt, and demands the unconditional surrender of the Capitalist Class.

The time is fast coming when in the natural course of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crises, on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other capitalist combinations, on the other hand, will have worked out its own downfall.

We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of America to organize under the banner of the Socialist Labor Party into a class consciousness, aware of its rights and determined to conquer them.

And we also call upon all other intelligent citizens to place themselves squarely upon the ground of Working Class interests, and join us in this mighty and noble work of human emancipation, so that we may put summary end to the existing barbarous class conflict by placing the land and all the means of production, transportation and distribution into the hands of the people as a collective body, and substituting the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder—a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.

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REFORMERS AND S. P.-ITES ANSWERED

THE CONTROL OF INDUSTRIES GIVES PLUTOCRACY CONTROL OVER ELECTIONS—GRUMBLERS AND FAULT-FINDERS SILENCED.

By J. H. Arnold, Louisville, Ky.

The late election emphasizes the fact which the S. L. P. has been constantly striving to drive home to the minds of the workers, that in any country the class that controls that country's industries will also control its political government.

The industrial lords of the United States control the nation's politics because they control the nation's industries. They do not control the industries because they control politics, as the reactionaries and reformers maintain, but they control politics because they control industry.

The control of the machinery of production and distribution means the ownership and control also of the law-making, law-interpreting and law-enforcing machinery of government. The making of laws, the interpreting of laws and the enforcing of laws in capitalist society is the prerogative of the class that controls the making and distribution of goods.

Many of our pure and simple, rainbow-chasing S. P. friends argue that the control by the capitalist class of the nation's industries could not be maintained twenty-four hours if they were not also in possession of the political powers of government. And, although we hear soap-box orators and even big lecturing intellectuals of the S. P. denouncing capitalists for their corrupting influence in politics and at elections, the thought seems never to have occurred to their minds that "the control by the capitalist class over the nation's government could not be maintained twenty-four hours if they were not also in possession of the industrial powers of government."

The S. L. P. has held in the past, holds now, and will continue to hold and teach, whether the immediate vote be big or little, that control of the political machine comes from control of the industrial machine. And the lessons of the late election emphasize the soundness of this propaganda.

The basis of political control is economic control. The roots of political power are planted in and draw their sustenance from the soil of the industrial field. The S. P. teaches that to loosen the grip of the capitalist upon the industrial machine you must first loosen his grip upon the political machine; that to destroy the capitalist's dominion over the field of industry you must first cut him from his dominion over the political field. S. P. propagandists teach that control of the mills, mines, factories and railroads is held by the capitalist by virtue of his control of Congress and the legislatures.

Tom Watson, leader of the old and defunct Populist movement, has noticed this feature of the S. P., and he calls Delta a Populist at heart, and maintains that the big vote the S. P. gets is due to its advocacy of Populism. "Socialists," he says, meaning the opportunistic S. P.-ites, "get votes when they talk Populism. When they talk Socialism they don't get them." Mr. Watson, at least, seems to understand the S. P. and his methods quite well.

The S. L. P. does not indulge the baseless S. P. assumption that the capitalist is going to suffer political decapitation while the economic sources of his power are left in his undisturbed possession. Nor does the S. L. P. say: "The capitalist will lose his control over industry and fall paralyzed upon the grave of capitalism twenty-four hours after he loses control over the nation's political government." The S. L. P. puts the proposition in logical order, and answers: "Twenty-four hours after the capitalist class is jarred loose from its control over industry by the revolutionary and industrially organized working class, its control over the nation's political government will have ended forever." If you wish to weaken your enemy you must plan to get hold of his base of supplies. The base of supplies of the capitalist enemy is the industries. You will seize his base of supplies, if you seize them at all, with the industrial, not the political, organization.

So long as the capitalist enemy is left in the serene and undisturbed control of all the sources of his power and dominion over us, our emancipation from the bondage of wage slavery will be at most a pleasing ideal to dream about, but a thing never to be realized in fact. The truth of this all those who have eyes to see must have observed in the late election. The class controlling the job also controlled the votes in the late campaign; and they elected their man, Tatt.

So long as the working class, as a class, simply wants work and looks not to its own, but to another class to find it work, it will continue to support at the polls the class that finds and supplies it with work, injunction or no injunction. So long as the working class is not

in a condition or frame of mind to do its own thinking, so long as it is content to remain the timid dependent guided by the economic and political leading strings of its industrial masters it will vote its masters' ticket. "Who eats his master's bread sings his master's song"—and votes his master's ballot. So long as the workers recognize and acknowledge the right of the employing class to own and control industry it will not be a difficult task to "persuade" them to recognize and acknowledge also the right of the same employing class to "influence" elections.

Whoever accepts the principle that the control of industry by the capitalist class is a fixed social relation that never can be changed, cannot logically object when the capitalist class, in order to protect its interests, endeavors to retain in its own hands also the powers of government.

Here is where the Bryanites, and the Debsites, and the rest of the reformers are illogical when they cry out "conspiracy" at the big employer who "instructs" his men and "warns" them, in his interest and theirs, how to cast their ballot on election day. What logical right have the Bryanites and the Bergerites, and the other reformers who recognize the right of private individuals and corporations to own and control industry, to raise objections when the same private individuals and corporations, in order to continue their ownership and control of industry "warn" their men that a failure on their part to vote as advised will mean disaster to both employer and employee? Who can without a protest or a blush, witness the rapid spread and steady intensification of wage slavery under which he sees millions of his fellow beings walk into the mills, mines and factories and take upon their necks, willingly or unwillingly, the yoke of industrial servitude, cannot without convicting himself of hypocrisy, protest when these millions of wage slaves have the masters' yoke of political subjection imposed upon their necks, although such acts may mean the blasting of the hopes of great orators and lightning-change artists to be President of the United States.

When Democratic politicians, reformers and Presidential aspirants hear without protest, and even themselves teach between elections, in opposition to Socialism, that the interests of capital and labor, of master and man, of employer and employee in the shop are mutual and identical, they have no right to complain when "brother labor," following out what it has been taught, decides that if its interests are identical and mutual in the shop, they must also be identical and mutual at the ballot box—and straightaway votes the Republican ticket.

No one who accepts as true the theory of the harmony of interests of capital and labor can logically object when he sees capital "coaching" labor how to vote to advance their "mutual interests." If it be revolutionary and treasonable to strive, organize and to resist and overcome the master rule in the shop, why is it not likewise revolutionary and treasonable to resist the masters' will at the polls? The Bryanites and the reformers have been unwittingly cutting the ground from under their own feet.

What a sorry figure, therefore, the Bryanites, the Populists and Debsites cut in crying out "conspiracy" when some big capitalist points out to him how he wants them to vote, and the disastrous consequences to them both if they fail to vote as he says.

We Socialist Labor Party men, knowing we occupy solid ground, are not to be cast down or discouraged at the result of the late election. We must press on our faith as firm, aye, firmer than ever, in our clear cut revolutionary propaganda. Periods of reaction and discouragement come, and all movements are liable to them; but we must not be swayed one jot or tittle from our course because the workers are not flocking as yet to our standard, and their own. Their blindness to their interests is only temporary. They will one day open their eyes and see. They will not always accept the institution of wage slavery as God-ordained, and to be perpetuated until Gabriel blows his trumpet at the Last Day.

A WORD TO THE WISE.

We have procured a few copies each of the following books, most of which are now out of print. Cash orders only will be considered.

Socialism and Modern Science, by Ferri \$1.00
People's Marx, by Deville 1.50
Critique of Political Economy, by Marx 1.50

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28 City Hall Place.

DIVORCES AND THE SOCIAL SYSTEM

BY MRS. OLIVE M. JOHNSON, FRUITVALE, CAL.

Cardinal Gibbons hath again spoken and this time he hath said, "The divorce evil is shocking and appalling and is striking at the very roots of our social system."

The report just rendered by the Census Bureau at Washington shows that nearly 1,000,000 divorces have taken place in the last 20 years; that one marriage out of 12 ends in divorce, and that divorces have increased about three times as fast as the population. With such figures before him it was not much wonder that Cardinal Gibbons, who is given to look upon himself as a factor of much importance in the social system, should have spoken, and in his character of eminent divine it is not much wonder that he should again have been talking nonsense.

The divorces striking at the roots of the social system indeed! Just as if social science had not established the fact that it is the social system that builds up or breaks down family relations! Lewis Morgan in his great work, "Ancient Society," has conclusively proven that the family relations in a given status of society are but the reflexes of the social order in that society. And he proves further that with the breaking up of a status of society there is a corresponding breaking up of the family relations.

The United States of America is the country of ultra capitalism. It is therefore in keeping with historic science that this country should lead the world in divorces even so far as to become "shocking and appalling." The population is divided into two classes. On the one hand the members of the capitalist class riot in idleness and luxury. Their standards of morality, love of truth and justice and respect for religion, country and family institutions are reflected in the behavior of such representative capitalist families as the Goulds, Vanderbilts, Hannas, Thaws, Hains, etc., and so on ad infinitum. The members of the capitalist class have become social parasites, and their only "mission" now remaining to society is to live out their useless lives as behemoths degraded parasites until the cleansing process of the social revolution sweeps them out of existence.

On the other hand, the wage-working class are oppressed and exploited every day of their lives by the capitalist system of production. They suffer from lack of work, low wages, precarious con-

ditions resulting from an appalling number of accidents that result in the loss of life and limb, unhealthy conditions of work that result in sickness, insanity and death. Men are made tramps and outcasts. Women and children are forced into the factories. Under these conditions what becomes of the family life? The million of divorce cases recorded by the Census Bureau may sound appalling to the Cardinal and his compatriots, but to the student of social science they do not tell half the tale of the decay of the modern family. The figures say nothing of the thousands of wage workers who "part" on the quiet to seek work and a livelihood. They say nothing of the other thousands who quarrel and fuss and fight and part for good, or otherwise, because of the miserable conditions that surround them, and who do not bother the legal gentlemen with a recitation of their troubles. The totals say nothing of the thousands upon thousands of marriages that never take place because capitalism builds up "he towns" in some parts of the country and "she towns" in others, or that the number of old maids and old bachelors grow apace because of the hardships in making a living. The census account tells nothing of the thousands of women sexually ruined by the long hours of arduous toil in the factories, nothing of the thousands of children morally and physically destroyed in the atmosphere of the factory, mill and mine long before they reach maturity.

The recital could be continued indefinitely, for indeed the untold tale of decay is far longer and more shocking and appalling than the recorded one. But this is enough to show that the social system, the capitalist system, is striking at the very root of the modern family relations. Fast and furiously the social system is tearing the family relations to shreds. These shreds as they dangle about in the nasty disclosures of divorce courts; in the sensational reports in the capitalist newspapers, or in the sermons of shocked ignorance that thunder from the pulpits are only heralding the decay of the social system itself.

To the Socialist this story is also shocking and appalling. But we learn from it the lesson that we must redouble our efforts to educate the working class so as to establish upon the ruins of fast decaying capitalism the workers' Industrial Socialist Republic.

THE MARRIAGE OF THE FUTURE.

Freed from the Material Considerations Necessary To-day, It Will Emerge A Purified Relation.

"When material considerations enter no longer into the contracting of a marriage, when woman is free to choose and is not compelled to sell herself, when man is obliged to compete for a woman's favor with his personality, and not with his social position and property, then the institution of matrimony will become a truth instead of the lie it is now; the sacred and sublime spirit of nature will bless every embrace, every child will be born surrounded by the love of its parents as with a halo, and will receive, as its first birth-day present, the strength and vitality with which every couple that has been formed by the attraction of affinity endows its offspring."

So wrote Max Nordau. Consider now how true it is, under the present system of production. Capitalism is robbery—the vilest, the meanest, most contemptible of all kinds of robbery—the robbery of the poor, the unfortunate, the helpless. No hatred can compare in depth, in bitterness, or in intensity with that inspired in a manly soul by this revolting system. To maintain which the capitalist buys the support of the bewigged lawyer, the judge with his ermine, the bishop with his lawn, the statesmen and politicians with their orders, their honors, and social rank; the press with its self-assumed title of the "public conscience." He buys them all, and binds them to himself with golden bonds; he is the God they all worship with lying litany, with hypocritical genuflections—serving him faithfully, by deceiving his victims and shielding his crimes, and all the while they are mouthing morality, love, honor and honesty, with their lying lips.

The whole history of human society, indeed, is one unbroken record of this wrong and oppression on the part of the privileged class in their dealings with the working class, and it is a delusion to suppose that it is less to-day than in the past. The capitalists sacrifice an immense amount of their wealth in order to enlist the services of those scientific, clerical and legal myrmidons whose duty it is to keep up the great deception that has served them so long and so well.

But the working class are no longer children, they are mentally of age and are capable of meeting the very best of these hired advocates and overthrowing their falsehoods; and these gallant defenders of Privileged Robbery are as much afraid of a true Socialist as a thief is of a policeman.

The "life" of the worker is the "substance" of exchange value. The sum total of exchange value constitutes the sum total of social wealth. Therefore the wealth of society is the life of its slaves crystallized. About one-fourth of this sum total goes toward the reproduction of the class; the other three-fourth go to a handful of capitalists and their hangers-on, the capitalist press, etc. This is the immense draft that is being made daily, hourly, on the lives of the men, women and children who do all the world's useful, necessary work. But the remedy lies in the worker's own hands. When they abolish this system, the evils will be corrected, and marriage be free and pure.

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THE ENGLISH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

THE STEAM ENGINE AND THE COTTON LOOM ITS MATERIAL FACTORS—WHERE IT DROVE THE CAPITALISTS.

While the Revolution insured the political triumph of the bourgeoisie in France, in England Watt, Arkwright, Cartwright and others initiated an industrial revolution, which completely shifted the centre of gravity of economic power. The wealth of the bourgeoisie increased considerably faster than that of the landed aristocracy. Within the bourgeoisie itself, the financial aristocracy, the bankers, etc., were more and more pushed into the background by the manufacturers. The compromise of 1689, even after the gradual changes it had undergone in favor of the bourgeoisie, no longer corresponded to the relative position of the parties to it. The character of these parties, too, had changed; the bourgeoisie of 1830 was very different from that of the preceding century. The political power still left to the aristocracy, and used by them to resist the pretensions of the new industrial bourgeoisie, became incompatible with the new economic interests. A fresh struggle with the aristocracy was necessary; it could end only in a victory of the new economic power. First, the Reform Act was pushed through, in spite of all resistance, under the impulse of the French Revolution of 1830. It gave to the bourgeoisie a recognized and powerful place in Parliament. Then the Repeal of the Corn Laws, which settled, once for all, the supremacy of the bourgeoisie, and especially of its most active portion, the manufacturers, over the landed aristocracy. This was the greatest victory of the bourgeoisie; it was, however, also the last it gained in its own exclusive interest. Whatever triumphs it obtained later on, it had to share with a new social power, first its ally, but soon its rival.

The industrial revolution had created a class of large manufacturing capitalists, but also a class—and a far more numerous one—of manufacturing workpeople. This class gradually increased in numbers, in proportion as the industrial revolution seized upon one branch of manufacture after another, and in the same proportion it increased in power. This power it proved as early as 1824, by forcing a reluctant Parli-

ament to repeal the acts forbidding combinations of workmen. During the Reform agitation, the workingmen constituted the Radical wing of the Reform party; the Act of 1832 having excluded them from the suffrage, they formulated their demands in the People's Charter, and constituted themselves in opposition to the great bourgeoisie Anti-Corn Law party, into an independent party, the Chartists, the first workingmen's party of modern times.

Then came the Continental revolutions of February and March, 1848, in which the working people played such a prominent part, and, at least in Paris, put forward demands, which were certainly inadmissible from the point of view of capitalist society. And then came the general reaction. First the defeat of the Chartists on the 10th of April, 1848, then the crushing of the Paris workmen's insurrection in the same year, then the disasters of 1849 in Italy, Hungary, South Germany, and at last the victory of Louis Bonaparte over Paris, 2nd December, 1851. For a time, at least, the bugbear of working class pretensions was put down, but at what cost! If the British bourgeoisie had been convinced before of the necessity of maintaining the common people in a religious mood, how much more would he feel that necessity after all these experiences? Regardless of the sneers of his Continental competers, he continued to spend thousands and tens of thousands, year after year, upon the evangelization of the lower orders; not content with his own native religious machinery, he appealed to Brother Jonathan, the greatest organizer in existence of religion as a trade, and imported from America revivalism, Moody and Sankey, and the like; and, finally, he accepted the dangerous aid of the Salvation Army, which revives the propaganda of early Christianity, appeals to the poor as the elect, fights capitalism in a religious way, and thus fosters an element of early Christian class antagonism, which one day may become troublesome to the well-to-do people who now find the ready money for it.—Historical Materialism, by Frederick Engels.

SECTION CALENDAR.

Under this head we shall publish standing advertisements of Section headquarters, or other permanent announcements. The charge will be five dollars a year for five lines.

Section San Francisco, Cal., S. L. P. Headquarters, Hungarian Socialist Federation, Lettonian Socialist Labor Federation, 883 McAllister street.

Los Angeles, Cal., Headquarters and public reading room at 317 East Seventh street. Public educational meetings Sunday evenings. People readers are invited to our rooms and meetings.

fourth Thursday. German, Jewish and Wednesday and Sunday. Open every Hungarian educational meetings, every

Headquarters Section Cleveland, Ohio, S. L. P., meets every alternate Sunday at 1366 Ontario avenue, at 3 P. M.

Headquarters Section Cincinnati, O., S. L. P., at 1414 Race street. General Committee meets every second and night.

Section Allentown, Pa., S. L. P., meets every first Saturday in the month at 8 p. m. Headquarters, 815 Hamilton street.

Section Providence, R. I., 81 Dyer st., room 8. Regular meetings second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

New Jersey State Executive Committee, S. L. P.—John Hossack, Secretary, 22 Fulton ave., Jersey City; Fred Gerold, Financial Secretary, 102 Waverly st., Jersey City, N. J.

Chicago, Illinois.—The 14th Ward Branch, Socialist Labor Party, meets every 1st and 3rd Sunday, 2 p. m. sharp, at Friedmann's Hall, a.e. corner Grand and Western avenues. Workingmen and women cordially invited.

Section Seattle, S. L. P. headquarters, free reading room and lecture hall, No. 2000 Second avenue. P. O. address, Box 1040.

Section Salt Lake, Utah, meets every Wednesday, 8 p. m., Rooms 4 and 5, Galena Block, 69 East 2nd St. Free reading room. Weekly People readers invited.

All communications intended for the Minnesota S. E. C. should be addressed to Otto Olson, 310 7th ave., So. Minneapolis, Minn.

Section St. Paul, Minn., S. L. P., holds a business meeting every second and fourth Sunday in the month at 10 a. m. at Federation Hall, cor. 3rd and Wabash streets.

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By

GEORGE B. LOCKWOOD.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1908.

I 'low ter mesef, I did, dat dish yer
country gittin' in a mighty bad way
w'en de creature is got ter go 'round
wid der ribs growin' terge'er w'iles de
reptiles layin' in de sun des nat'ally
fattenin' on der own laziness. Yesser,
dat w'at I 'lowed.

—BRER RABBIT,
(In "Uncle Remus.")

A SERMON FROM THE OPERATING TABLE.

John Bauduy, lying on the operating
table in Bellevue Hospital on the 11th
inst., while the red blood flowed from
an incision in his wrist into that of
his unconscious brother Louis, in an
attempt to save the latter's life after
a severe asphyxiation, bore heroic
witness to the truth of Socialist philo-
sophy.

Long and loud do the enemies of
Socialism raise their voices to cry that
Socialism is impossible because of
"human nature." "Human nature"
being, they claim evil and grasping,
the system, once established, would
collapse like a house of cards under
the selfishness of its own members;
the strong and the greedy will again
seize the upper hand, and we'll be
back again where we're now.

All of which John Bauduy on his
hospitable table, eloquently though
mutely refutes. Human nature is not
bad but good; not corrupt, but under
adverse circumstances corruptible.
Man in past ages and the present has
been largely corrupted and his better
parts corroded with the vice of selfish-
ness, making countless thousands
mourn. But there has been a reason for
it.

In all past ages man has had to fight
with his brother for a livelihood. The
earth, with the deficient knowledge
and machinery applicable to it, was
unable to produce enough for all her
teeming children. Under such cir-
cumstances, where selfishness meant
death, of course man was turned self-
ish in spite of himself.

Even at that, there have always
stuck out shining examples of dis-
interestedness. But to-day, the me-
chanical knowledge, the skill, and the
organizing ability of the race has ren-
dered possible a plenty for all. Let
once the hampers of capitalist owner-
ship be stricken off, and that plenty
will be not producible only; but actu-
ally produced. Under such cir-
cumstances, unselfishness will no longer
become a handicap in the struggle for
life. Freed from a hostile environ-
ment, liberated from the corrupting
necessity of self-seeking, man's nature
will then for the first time in history
assert its goodness, unsullied, univer-
sally.

John Bauduy, rising high enough
above even his present hostile en-
vironment to give his life's blood for
his brother, proves it.

A "REASONABLE PROFIT."

Professor Joseph French Johnson of
the New York University hemmed and
hewed a good deal on the witness stand,
during his examination before the Fed-
eral referee in the Standard Oil case,
when requested to define a "reasonable
profit." The professor was summoned
by the Standard Oil. Finally asked
whether he considered a profit of more
than 100 per cent. justifiable, he evaded
the question saying that "economists
have had a hard time determining what
a 'reasonable profit' is."

Economists never had any hard time
determining what a "reasonable profit"
is. The thing has been determined with
ease and accuracy.

A "reasonable profit," true enough, is
not a thing which can be determined by
any hard and fast rule—like a cow or a
cat could be determined. Hence, perhaps,
Prof. Johnson's confusion. Nevertheless,
there are specific rules to go by.

Say, a capitalist operates a million
dollar capital. A "reasonable profit"

with him depends upon circumstances.

If he be an old fogey, lacking "push
and enterprise," he will be satisfied with
a 5 per cent. profit. That will be rea-
sonable to him.

If he be not quite an old fogey, and
believes in expansion, and the need of
some measure of credit, requiring him to
keep a residence in the city and a villa
in the country, then a 5 per cent. profit
would be unreasonable, then a 10 per
cent. profit becomes "reasonable."

Is he two degrees further removed
from the old fogey stage, and has to
spend more money so as to fetch more—
in other words, if his business genius
demands of him outlays in fast horses
and faster women to match, then not-
ing less than 30 per cent. can "reason-
ably" be considered reasonable.

In case he be still further removed
from the archaic stage of capitalism, and
has to "accelerate" legislation, besides
doing the things necessary to keep up
the second and the third degrees pace,
then 75 per cent. will barely be "reason-
able," but may just do.

Should the capitalist in question have
progressed beyond the fourth degree—
requiring expensive resorts, such as os-
tentatious winter quarters and luxurious
summer retreats to keep up his "credit";
horses and women to promote "connec-
tions"; job lots of legislators, etc., to
"accelerate" revenues;—should he reach
the point where, a labor fakir, or spy, in
his slave pen, and a duke, or a count, at
least a baron, becomes a desirable bit
of bric-a-brac to his house furnishings, then
100 per cent. is unreasonably small.

Profits are a sort of sliding scale.
There is no absolute standard. It all
depends—on all of which information is
tendered to Prof. Johnson free, gratis
and for nothing.

WE CAN'T ALL HAVE AUTOMOBILES.

It is high time that kicking and riot-
ing workmen and socialists gener-
ally, quit their fooling, and become order-
ly.

E. H. Gary, the chairman of the Board
of Directors of the Steel Trust, testify-
ing before the House Ways and Means
Committee on the condition of Labor in
general, especially of Labor employed in
protected industries, said on December 18:

"I can produce a photograph of one of
my company's industrial plants showing
automobiles waiting in front for the
close of business to carry employees to
their homes."

Theories that don't stand upon facts
have their feet in the air. Here we have
a FACT—a stout, robust FACT. Work-
ingmen owning automobiles, riding on
them to and from work. Here is a fact
upon which to build and from which
sound conclusions can be drawn. Here
is a fact that throws light into many
a hitherto dark corner.

Workingmen frequently are sick. They
and their Socialist congeners have been
claiming that these sicknesses were the
consequence of starvation wages. Now we
know the real reason. The reason is in-
digestion and gout, resultant upon over-
feeding. People who sport automobiles
don't usually starve—not to any alarm-
ing extent.

What a lot of sentimental gush have
not Socialists indulged in on the score
of accidents suffered by workmen, even
comparing the industrial field with
"a bloody field of battle, where the limbs
and lives of the toilers are sacrificed." Now
we have an insight into the nature
of these accidents. They are automo-
bile accidents. Reckless workmen, true
to their lawless nature, ride beyond the
speed limit—and, of course, break
their legs, arms and other things.

Off and on, and quite frequently, the
din is heard of clamorous demands for
higher wages, and old women of both
sexes swell the noise with complaints
that the workmen have no clothes,
and that the clothes they have are too
old, and they need new ones. Oh! Now
the secret is out! What they want is
automobiles, or money to repair, or sub-
stitute the old ones which they have
worn out.

This nonsense of the Labor or Social-
ist movement must come to an end.
Society can not afford to be kept in
unrest just because a lot of people are
never satisfied. We can't all have au-
tomobiles, and ever more money for re-
pairs and new ones.

The manager of an employment bu-
reau throws this flashlight upon things
social. Pointing to one of her servant
girl-clients, she said: "Her late mistress
was a bridge fiend. One day, for the
want of money to bet, she and her
friends played with their maids for
stakes. At the end of the game each
woman considered herself in honor bound
to stick to her agreement, and an at-
tempt was really made to swamp ser-
vants according to the ups and downs of
the game. Some of the girls thus raffled
off changed places meekly; but this client
of mine refused to be swapped, and
hustled around hunting a new job."—
Such rebellious, anti-law-and-order
spirits!

BILL, H. R. 15,447.

There is in the Federal House of
Representatives a bill numbered 15,447,
and entitled "A bill providing for the
investigation of controversies affecting
interstate commerce, and for other pur-
poses." What the "other purposes" are
does not quite appear from the Tenor
of the bill itself. The "other purposes"
did, however, peep through the folds
of the drapery of the oratory with
which the bill was advocated when it
came up for its first reading before the
House in Committee of the Whole on
the 10th of this month. The title of
the bill should be: "A bill providing
for the imparting of official and impar-
tial character to the interested and fal-
sified reports that the plutocratic-cap-
italist press publishes of controversies
between employers and employees, and
for the further purpose of thereby giv-
ing a color of justice to the interfer-
ence of Federal troops, and to secure
public favor for such Federal inter-
ference."

The theory upon which proceed those
who advocate the bill is this:

"Compulsory arbitration means slav-
ery. Such a method may not be em-
ployed to quell the riots that period-
ically break out between Labor and
Capital. All the same something must
be done. Some power there must be to
quell such 'terrific disturbances.' What
power is that? 'Public Opinion.' For
'Public Opinion' to act it must have
information. The bill empowers the
President to appoint a Commission
with power to go to the spot, sum-
mon witnesses, books, etc., and report
their findings. The information re-
ported by the Commission will then be
made public. Its product or conse-
quence will be, 'Public Opinion' upon
the subject. And seeing that to ques-
tion the infallibility of Public Opinion
is to question the integrity of the Re-
public all will bow—(or will be bay-
oneted into bowing?)—before the fiat
of Public Opinion."

The only thing that is marvelous
about this sleight of hand is its clumsi-
ness.

Until now the reports of "controvers-
ies" between Capital and Labor, how-
ever gruesome the reports and incen-
diary, reached the public only through
the private channels of the capitalist
press. The reports had some effect,
but could hardly be made the basis for
Federal intervention. Bill 15,447 is
intended to give such reports "official
flavor and standing." Already what-
ever suits the interests of any capital-
ist paper is termed by it "Public Opin-
ion," and so generally held by the
unthinking. After bill 15,447 shall have
gone into effect, who will dare deny
that their reports of any particular
"controversy" is the pure breath of
"Public Opinion—and who would dare
wag a shrewd tongue against His lat-
est Sanctity?"

PRESIDENT ELIOT CONDEMNING CRIME AND CHUCKING CRIMINALS UNDER THE CHIN.

"Standing erect despite his 76 years"
and with "every word that he spoke
audible all over the hall" President
Eliot of Harvard is reported to have
addressed the Civic Forum on the 16th
of this month at Carnegie Hall on the
subject of "Lawlessness."

Make such changes as the changed
"tone" of modern times demands, and
as the English language requires, and
President Eliot's address is to be dis-
tinguished in only one particular, an
important particular, from some of the
satires in which Juvenal of old por-
trayed the helpless decadence in
which the Roman Empire was steeped.

Juvenal was not concerned with the
immorality and lawlessness of the Ro-
man plebs. The figures that stood for
his models were taken from the patri-
cian caste. So with President Eliot.
He even emphasized the point that "the
common thief is an outlaw and his ex-
ploits do little harm by way of ex-
ample, even when they succeed. The
dishonest promoter on the other hand
does not necessarily become an out-
law, and when he succeeds he is apt to
stimulate others to like iniquities, and
the ruin he works is widespread."

With this correct principle for key-
note, President Eliot proceeded to re-
cite a long list of categories of law-
lessness—the practice of allowing the
use of ingenious metaphysical defenses
in criminal trials; the going out of
one's own State where one would nat-
urally incorporate his business to in-
corporate in another State; the prac-
tice of "foreseeing that one shall for-
sake the law to commit illegal acts, pro-
curing beforehand protection against
prosecution for illegitimate practices by
means of legislation, apparently inno-
cent, but really designed to entrench
in their control of trust institutions
speculative and immoral officials, or to
prevent convictions for criminal vio-
lence not yet perpetrated but to be
perpetrated; the practice of directors
"selling the control of a corporation
without giving the minority holders a
chance to protest"; Courts "packed by

Executive appointments in order to
secure from these same Courts de-
cisions in conformity with the wishes
of the Executives"; etc., etc.

What individual capitalist is there
who falls to fall under one or other of
these categories?

Juvenal of old, or old Juvenal was
frank to charge that things were going
from bad to worse; the Juvenal who
spoke before the Civic Forum was less
candid, less truthful. Having lam-
basted the practices of his hosts, he
thereupon proceeded to chuck them
under the chin with the mendacious
assurance that society was improving,
"not steadily, but by spasmodic ad-
vances."

Whereupon all hands adjourned to
a late supper, happy-ready to make
some more "spasmodic advances."

96 CENTS A DAY.

"V. S. W." a Springfield, O., cor-
respondent in the New York "Sun" of the
14th of this month, has made an un-
pardonable slip for a denouncer of
Unionism as "tyranny" and a praise-
singer of Capitalism as "justice."

"V. S. W." tells a tale of hard luck—
how the Unions tyrannized it over him
in the construction of a certain "cir-
cular structure some fifty feet in di-
ameter of pressed brick, and ornamental
in its architecture"; how they made
"unjust demands" upon him; how, not-
withstanding he showed to the walking
delegates that the demands were, besides
unjust, ridiculous, the Unions stood by
the demands; how the demands virtually
amounted to a requisition upon him that
he put a lot of men on his pension list,
and keep them there, and "take care
of them."

"V. S. W." goes on at this rate for
quite a number of "stickfuls," making
his case stronger and stronger—until
finally he slips. In the attempt to clinch
his point he overthrows the previous
towering structure of his accusations.
Says he: "I was a paymaster of the
construction company with A FORCE
OF 400 MEN AND A MONTHLY PAY-
ROLL OF \$10,000."

A fatal statement that is.

"A force of 400 men" might sound, as
it no doubt was intended to sound, sym-
pathetic—"400 men given work."

"A monthly payroll of \$10,000" might
sound, as it no doubt was intended to
sound, charitable—\$10,000 distributed
like manna among the poor.

Either of these two fractions of the
statement might have added color to
"V. S. W.'s" tale of unrequited capitalist
generosity and charity towards the
workers. The two fractions joined to-
gether in one statement impart a sickly
hue to "V. S. W.'s" tale.

"A force of 400 men and a monthly
payroll of \$10,000" spells an average
of \$25 a month—or 96 cents a day.
Should "V. S. W." claim that some, or
several, averaged a higher pay, he would
strangle his tale only more hopelessly.
It would mean that many received even
below the starvation wage of 96 cents a
day.

"V. S. W." should be more careful in
future, what he says—and the "Sun"
what it publishes.

Signor Guglielmo Ferrero, the Italian
historian who pronounces the stories
about Antony and Cleopatra to be pure
myths is doing something of infinitely
more immediately practical importance
than to rectify history. He is contrib-
uting valuable aid to the suffragists and
suffragettes, by throwing decided odium
upon the anti. According to Signor
Ferrero, the Cleopatra myth "is an anti-
feminist legend by Augustus Caesar in
order to show to the Roman people the
unwelcome results of leaving to wom-
en the government of public affairs."

Champ Clark, the minority, or opposi-
tion leader in the Federal House of Re-
presentatives, is described as a man who
"emits a mellow roar at the head of a
devoted adversary, tells a yarn, quotes
Byron, says a good word for Thomas
Jefferson, has a fling at Alexander Ham-
ilton, and then takes his enemy to
lunch." Without meaning any offense to
Champ Clark, it would seem he is just
the sort of timber out of which to hew
"suave" Socialist party oppositionists in
Congress.

After all that is being said against the
brusqueness of Roosevelt has been said,
and that is being said in favor of the
affability of Taft has been said, and con-
sidering the trend of events, one is for-
cibly reminded of Montesquieu's summary
of Sulla and Augustus—"Sulla roughly
sought to bring the Romans back to
freedom, Augustus gently led them on
to slavery."

The Wabash cuts Chicago rates down
to \$8, and threatens further reductions
in case the competing lines should cut
down below that. Only yesterday all
these lines were making a poor month,
and declaring they were being run at a
loss.

THE CLASS STRUGGLE

THE OPPOSITION OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS ARISING FROM
CAPITALIST EXPLOITATION.

We are frequently admonished that
there are no classes in this country.

That, in theory at least, we all have
the same political rights; all are equal
before the law. That the class dic-
tine applies in Europe, perhaps, where
men are still divided into classes by
the survivals of feudalism, but not
here. This shows a complete miscon-
ception of the sense in which the term
is used. It is used to distinguish, not
a social, but an economic condition.
And when the papers refer to some
proposed labor law as class legislation,
they use the word in the same sense
precisely. By class antagonism, there-
fore, is meant that opposition of the
economic interests which results from
capitalist exploitation, and is as char-
acteristic of America as of Europe.

Socialism is essentially an economic,
rather than a social or political propo-
sition. Its aim everywhere is to
prevent that robbery of the workers
which is an inevitable part of capitalist
production, whether it be in autocratic
Russia or Republican America. It is
this that gives the movement its inter-
national character—and to aver that
there is no basis for its existence in
the United States shows an utter fail-
ure to comprehend the scope of its at-
tack.

To understand socialism rightly, a
clear comprehension of the nature of
and reason for its criticism of property
rights is most necessary.

Genesis of Capitalist Property.

Capitalism, as it exists to-day, is
of comparatively recent date. In the
middle ages the workers were, as a
rule, in possession individually of the
means of production—the land and the
tools. Each family, to a great extent,
supplied its own needs; or exchange
was largely within the limits of the
community, a matter of mutual serv-
ices. Here, then, is a simple and true
form of private property. It is self-
earned. There is individual owner-
ship of the means of production, indi-
vidual production, and individual ap-
propriation of the product. Put as a
productive system, it was necessarily
meagre in its results.

As the advantages of combined ef-
fort, with division of labor, or co-
operative production, came to be ap-
preciated, the older form began gradu-
ally to be superseded. But when this
division of labor, by reducing produc-
tion to a series of simple operations,
opened the way for mechanical inven-
tion, a rapid transformation followed
and modern capitalism was soon in
full sway. The change that had taken
place was most radical. With the or-
ganization of production on an ever-
increasing scale, the worker had been
expropriated—no longer owned the
means of production. (This term,
"means of production," in common
usage, includes such property only as
enters into production or transporta-
tion—land, mines, factories, machinery,
warehouses, railroads, etc.; commercial
property, as distinguished from pri-
vate property, or that which goes to
the supplying of one's individual
needs.) The means of production had
passed from the hands of the workers
to the capitalists. And as a result of
the change, things now stand in this
wise:—socialized production, but capi-
talist ownership of the means of pro-
duction, and the capitalist appropriation
of the product. The owner of the
means of production, though no longer
the producer, still appropriates the
product; and the character of the ap-
propriation is fundamentally changed.

This is the genesis of capitalist pri-
vate property. Once the results of
one's individual efforts, under capital-
ism property has largely become the
appropriation of that which is pro-
duced by the labor of others. It is the
robbery of the workers. Can you won-
der, then, that when men talk glibly
of the sacred rights of property, mean-
ing capitalist property, the socialist,
knowing whence it is derived, refuses
to bow down and worship?

Let me restate the nature of this
change, as a clear understanding of
it is most vital.
Formerly the worker owned the
means of production used them him-
self, and owned the product. Now we
have capitalist ownership of the means
of production; and capitalist appropri-
ation of that which is produced by the
socialized or co-operative efforts of
the workers. Property, once self-
earned, now rests on the exploitation
of the workers. And ownership of
the means of production is the key to
the situation; for to the owner goes
the product. Thereby comes the power

to rob; for to gain access to them the
workers must forego their right to
that which they produce.

Labor-Power Becomes a Commodity.

The effect of this change upon the
condition of the workers has been most
marked. Through loss of control over
the means of production, the once in-
dependent handicraftsmen have be-
come the wage-slaves of to-day. They
work, not for themselves, but for a
master, to whom goes the product of
their labor, except a portion barely
sufficient to keep them in working
condition. Sometimes, not even that.
Their labor-power—and you cannot
separate the labor-power from the man
—they are forced to offer as a mar-
ket commodity. They must sell or
perish, having no other resource; and
they sell themselves by the day, the
week, the year. The wage they re-
ceive bears little or no relation to the
productive value of the labor. The
competition of the labor market deter-
mines it. If in possession of a skill
that is rare, the wage is high—from
lack of competition. Or, if through
organization of the trade, competition
for work can be prevented, a wage
above the average may be enforced.
Where artificial conditions do not ex-
ist, and to-day they exist only at ex-
ceptional times, and in exceptional lo-
calities, the wage-worker feels the
full and disastrous effects of being a
commodity. He must sell his labor-
power at its value—that is, he must
sell it at its cost of production. With
the mass of unemployed living on a low
standard, the tendency of wages is to
gravitate to that standard. To-day
wages tend downward, and the stand-
ard of living goes down accordingly.

From this it can be readily seen why
the workers do not share in the bene-
fits of machinery. What they receive
is determined, not by what they pro-
duce, but by competition with their
fellows for a chance to work. And the
displacements of labor which accom-
pany the introduction of machinery
serve but to intensify that competition
by constantly recruiting the ranks of
the unemployed. Furthermore, the
tendency of mechanical invention to
supersede skilled labor by unskilled is
to the workers a positive detriment,
for it means a lowering of the wage.

This, then, is how it stands. On
the one hand, workers who must get
access to the means of production or
starve, and access possible only
through acceptance of a competitive
wage. On the other, capitalist owners
of the means of production forced by
competition among themselves to buy
the labor offered at the lowest mar-
ket price. So long, therefore, as this
system remains unchanged, the rob-
bery of the workers is its inevitable
result. Production might be increased
to any extent with no advantage to
them whatever! Who, then, are bene-
fited? Plainly those who own and mo-
nopolize the means of production—the
capitalist class.

This is the evil that must be met;
that monopoly by a class of the means
of production, whereby the workers
are robbed of all but mere subsistence.
And the solution which socialism pro-
poses is a simple and logical deduction
from the conditions. It was clearly
formulated years ago by an American,
Thomas Skidmore. In a book entitled
"The Rights of Man to Property," pub-
lished in New York in 1829, he says:
"If, then, it is seen that the steam
engine, for example, is likely to great-
ly impoverish or destroy the poor, what
have they to do but to lay hold of it
and make it their own? Let them ap-
propriate also, in the same way, the
cotton factories, the woolen factories,
the iron foundries, the rolling mills,
houses, churches, ships, goods, steam-
in a manner as proposed as in this
boats, fields of agriculture, etc., etc.
work, and as is their right."—Social-
ism, by McClure.

CONVICTS LEASED.

Alabama Sells 200 of Them for Five
Years to Bessemer Coal Co.

Montgomery, Ala., December 15.—
The State of Alabama has just closed
a contract with the Bessemer Coal, Iron
and Land Company, covering the lease
for five years, beginning January 1, of
two hundred State convicts. A guar-
antee is made of not less than \$2.25
per day for first class, and not less
than \$1.80 per day for second class
convicts, the classification to be based
on the amount of coal mined by the
men.

The New York Labor News Company
is the literary agency of the Socialist
Labor Party. It prints nothing but
sound Socialist literature.



UNCLE SAM AND

BROTHER JONATHAN.

BROTHER JONATHAN—To the devil
with that Standard Oil Trust!

UNCLE SAM—So say I, if you mean
the stockholders.

B. J.—Let us smash it!

U. S.—Nary a smash.

B. J.—I thought you agreed it was a
bad thing.

U. S.—So I do, if you mean the stock-
holders.

B. J.—What is the difference? Is not
the trust itself a bad thing?

U. S.—In what way is it bad?

B. J.—This Standard Oil Trust, for
instance, closed thirty-nine refineries.

U. S.—Good!

B. J.—Good?

U. S.—Yes.

B. J.—Are you joking?

U. S.—I am not. Have we now less
oil than we need?

B. J.—I think not.

U. S.—If to-day, with an increased
need for oil, all the oil needed can be
produced with thirty-nine refineries less,
is it not proof that those thirty-nine
were superfluous?

B. J.—I won't deny that.

U. S.—Is it not a proof of former
wastefulness and present economy in
production?

B. J.—I may grant that, too.

U. S.—Does it not follow that ener-
gies and wealth that were formerly
wasted in the production of oil, being
now saved, can be turned into other
channels in which they may be needed?

B. J.—Nor that would I deny.

U. S.—All that being so—waste be-
ing stopped, wise economy being estab-
lished, and thereby forces set free to
stimulate new production—I maintain
trusts are good.

B. J.—I was simply giving you rope
when I granted what I did—

U. S.—And now I am hanged?

B. J. (laughing)—You don't

CORRESPONDENCE

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name will attach such name to their communications, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

NEWS TO THE DAILY PEOPLE ABOUT ITSELF!

To the Daily and Weekly People:—On my agitation trip in this district I have run across a story of a "\$30,000 mortgage on the Daily People plant." This is the pet universal gas now of the S. P. contingent jointly with the Chicago "I. W. W." outfit. Like the misfits that they are the gentry have not planned their fake well. Their stories do not agree as to when the mortgage falls due and foreclosure is to take place; one set says that it will be in January; the other set says in the Spring. And thus they knock each other out—and both are waiting for the wished-for event like the shepherds gazing at the Star of Bethlehem.

"Napoleon" St. John was in Pittsburgh trying to display his peerless qualities as a "General"—organizer, but his fame has all diminished and he was given the icy mitt: they could not even arrange a meeting for him. So he went to New Castle, Pa., last Saturday night with a low temperature. I spoke in New Castle Sunday, and the men there told me that "Napoleon" was a very tame proposition.

August Gillhaus.

Youngstown, O., December 15.

NOW'S THE CHANCE TO BUILD UP A CIRCULATION.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Enclosed find check for \$5, \$1 for two subscriptions to the Weekly and \$3.50 for one year to the Daily; the balance as a Daily People Christmas present. I wish I could send five times that sum as I could not make a better present to any better friend and educator.

The subscriptions I received to-day as the result of an argument I had with an S. P. would-be intellectual before election. He has been a reader of the Appeal to Humbug. While several persons listened to the argument they did some thinking for themselves. Now as the "Red Special," with all the capitalist booming, did not bring the expected results as to votes; therefore the jig is up, and our position as to straight, uncompromising Socialism will begin to be understood more clearly. And we are bound to increase the list of readers to our press as well as increase the sales of literature.

I sold some tickets to our dance for Sunday, December 13, and those men will get acquainted with our organization, and the besmirchers of the name of Socialism will be found out.

Hammond, Ind., is about twenty-two miles southeast of Chicago, and is quite an important industrial town of about 18,000 in time of prosperity, but at present almost all the factories and car shops are working only half time, and conditions are not better than last year at the beginning of the panic. Those that are fortunate enough in having a job are so much indebted that they can barely live from one day to the next.

Yesterday I was in Racine, Wisconsin, and I found the conditions most deplorable. It was no work or working four days a week, eight hours a day. That is the story you are told on entering any business, and therefore no money and no selling of goods. As a commercial traveller I can see that times are not very promising for the coming winter though all the capitalist newspapers are saying different. It is no wonder that so many seek relief in self destruction, for it is no fun to have the pangs of hunger playing tag with your stomach.

D. Rudnick.

Fore Park, Ill., December 9.

AN APROPOS WARNING.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The Socialist party secretary, Mahlon Barnes, proudly announces in the Cleveland Citizen the news that the increase of dues-paying members during the campaign has exceeded the total accessions during the last three years, and is three times as large as the number of new members during the last presidential campaign year.

When Socialists can be manufactured over night, we can not expect anything else than Communist disaster. Workingsmen, be on your guard to unite on insuring on scientific principles. To do that, spread the beacon light of the Daily and Weekly People. The sooner you start to work for The Peo-

ple, the sooner the light will shine and the sooner the danger will be overcome. Let no village or hamlet be without The People.

S. W.

New York, Dec. 13.

RING THE CALL FOR MEN!

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I have just finished reading H. S. Carroll's letter to The People, under date of Nov. 18th, and I feel it incumbent upon me to place myself on record as one who most heartily endorses the action of the real, bona-fide I. W. W., as represented by those of the New York contingency, i. e., Chase, De Leon, et al.

I also take this opportunity of publicly endorsing the stand taken by our erstwhile financial secretary, fellow worker Carroll. Carroll states in his letter of Nov. 18th that "now cometh the parting of the ways." Right, Oh, let it come! Too long have we been groping in darkness—now LET THERE BE LIGHT! They, the "non-thinkers" and the irresponsible hot-heads of the organization call us (mark the "us") "intellectuals," sometimes adding vile epithets thereto, as if, forsooth, 'twere a base crime, and treason to the cause of justice, aye, treason to his fellow workers and comrades for a workingman to exercise his intellect!

Wherein lies the reason for this? Whence this stigma that they seek to attach to the term "intellectual"? Is it then a thing so awful, so unforgivable, to be one of that vast army of wage slaves, who by diligent application, by reading, reasoning and thinking on this ever present problem, the "class struggle," has raised himself a wee bit above the mental plane of his fellow man? Is it, I ask, a thing so heinous for the man who thinks, to attempt to be a lamp unto the feet of those who walk in darkness? Is "direct action" a good thing? Aye, aye, Sir! It is! But is not political action a sane and proper sort, an absolutely necessary adjunct to direct action?

I maintain that it is! From his home in Delaware, Henry W. Davis thundered in a voice worthy of a new Demosthenes: "He who compromises a political issue is a fool, but he who compromises a moral issue is a villain!"

Have not these self-appointed Czar of Bush Temple, Chicago, thus offended? Have they not violated the constitution of the I. W. W. of 1905? Have they not done these very things for which our enemies of the capitalist class are (in)famous?

I say yea! And now, let us hark back to the principles of 1905—the bright, clean and lofty principles of Industrial Unionism. Let there be light; and above all, let there be peace and harmony in our ranks! Let us move on and on, as one man, up and ever onward, along that pathway that follows along the higher ground, and leads, at last, to that long-sought goal for which we are ever striving! Industrial freedom for all, freedom from the deep disgrace of child slavery, freedom for our women, who are now dragged in the noxious slime of the bawdy house in order that they may live (?), or else forced into the sordid grind of factory, store and office, there to wear their souls away in return for a pittance barely sufficient to hold the vital spark within those poor, malnourished frames! And let us strive unceasingly for the coming of that glad day when we who proudly proclaim ourselves "men," can say it in ringing, burning words of truth; and thus saying, look our every fellow man in the eye and cringe not, nor blush for shame of knowing ourselves slaves!—slaves, to the idle rich, slaves to a custom that is centuries old, and long since ready to be relegated to the bone-yard of prehistoric savagery!

Let us be MEN! Robt. H. Harris, Rec. Sec'y Local 437, I. W. W., Holtville, Cal., Dec. 19.

FOR CONFIRMATION.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—If anybody doubts that the Bush Temple outfit has gone over to the Anarchists, just let him read the October edition of "Mother Earth," pages 308-319, and find out for himself.

Robert Strach.

San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 14.

WATCH OUT FOR THIS THIEF AND MASQUERADER.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—One of the oldest members of Section Richmond, Otto Biersch, has recently been victimized to the extent of nearly a hundred dollars by a crook

who is masquerading as a member of the S. L. P., and I state the facts in order that comrades elsewhere may escape our Richmond comrade's experience.

The scoundrel, who gave the name of "Henry Hohman," arrived in Richmond about three weeks ago. He is about five feet eight inches in height, weighs about 125 pounds, has (or had) short gray mustache, hair gray, but bald in centre of head, wore gray striped overcoat and soft gray-brown hat. He is a German, from Leipzig, and speaks German and English with equal fluency. He described himself as being a fresco painter, hailing from San Francisco, where his house had been burned during the catastrophe of 1906, and that he had been unable as yet to collect the insurance money. He stated that he had come East in search of work, and had met with all sorts of ill-luck, culminating in an attack of appendicitis, for which he had to undergo an operation in a New York City hospital, from which he had been discharged only a few days before he came to Richmond. The fellow looked as if he had just left a sick-bed. He is not a boozier or a bum in appearance, but, on the contrary, dresses neatly and has a decidedly clerical look.

"Hohman," declared himself to be a member of the S. L. P., and exhibited an intimate knowledge of the party's internal affairs and of its personnel, and impressed the two or three members of Section Richmond who met him as possessing an unusually keen insight into all that pertained to Socialism. He told of his work as a lecturer and propagandist for the S. L. P. in California, casually mentioning Frank Jordan (he of "Logical Centrist" repute) as being a resident and book-seller in Ypsico, and that he was well acquainted with him. "Hohman" expressed himself in very pessimistic strain as to the future of the S. L. P., as judged by the small vote polled by it in the recent election, "emphasized his disgust with De Leon's leadership, characterizing the Editor of The People as a man who wrecked every movement with which he identified himself, and declared that he was done with the S. L. P., and as soon as he got back to San Francisco (to which city he claimed to be heading) he would immediately join the SOCIALIST PARTY.

While not accepting the fellow's deductions as to the proper policy for a Socialist to follow at this late day in choice of organizations, "Hohman" made a good impression on those comrades whom he met—so much so that comrade Biersch, who desired some improvements made in his house, decided to afford the traveler a chance to better his condition by giving him employment. Entrusted with the purchase of the materials to be used (paint, wall-paper, etc.), the advocate of a "broader" Socialist movement than the "decadent S. L. P." pocketed this money, as well as other advances made to him for board and expenses, and shook the dust of Richmond off his feet.

Instead of "Hohman" being present at the meeting of Section Richmond on Sunday, December 6, a telegram came from him, addressed Washington, D. C., saying he would come back here the following day. An investigation made by comrade Biersch then disclosed the fact that he had been robbed.

Many readers of the Daily and Weekly People comes across this individual, I would advise that they lead him on until they can succeed in placing him where he belongs—behind the bars of a jail.

Alex. B. McCulloch.

Manchester, Va., Dec. 13.

AT THE CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST FELLOWSHIP BANQUET.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Last Monday evening I attended the banquet of the Christian Socialist Fellowship which was held in New York. The dining room in Coddington's Restaurant was filled with a crowd of well-dressed and well-fed looking people. The majority of them, so I was told, were church members.

Sitting there viewing the scene I was carried back, some sixteen years, to the time of my first look in at a Socialist meeting. The advocates of Socialism that I then saw were either long-haired, or long-bearded. The meeting place was held, not in the back, but right out in the saloon, the means of propaganda—the social glass. Because I failed to pass muster at the place of preliminary initiation, the bar, I was scorned as "temperance!" and went on my way thinking that hirsute adornment, beer, and Socialism went together, as the comic papers represented. Those were the "birds of the coming storm!" when I joined the S. L. P. twelve years ago they were going to the rear and flew out in the squall of 1899.

Since my connection with the Party

I have invariably noticed that the few preachers with whom I came in contact were upholders of the present system. It was therefore mildly surprising to see, last Monday night, men with clerical garb both advocating and applauding Socialism, which the cloth has so often denounced. It brought to mind the words of the dying Julian: "Thou hast conquered, O Gallilean!"

Mr. Weeks, a life insurance company official, acted as toastmaster. He confessed to some disappointment at the result of the election, but thought that none need feel discouraged.

Professor Rauschenbusch, of Rochester, thought that through the "door of religion" was the easiest way to reach the middle class and professional men. He laid rather too much stress upon the importance of sentiment, love etc. When he sat down he was applauded so warmly that he arose and started in again, this time, perhaps all unwittingly, completely overthrowing what he had at first said, for he proceeded to show that the god idea was man-made and developed with man's development.

Rev. John D. Long told of the growth of the Fellowship, some 2,000 ministers being either members, or favorably disposed. There are 150,000 ministers in the country, and he figured that if the Fellowship had the means it could easily get ten per cent. of them into membership. Mr. Long finds that preachers are generally more willing to listen than the pew holders. He might have added that material needs sometimes drive them in advance, of the laity. Long reminds one of the old-time preachers who braved the dangers of remote settlements in order to preach the gospel.

All necks were craned as J. G. Phelps Stokes stood up to speak. His talk was pointless, his mannerisms painful to witness, and the unprejudiced observer would conclude that were it not for his wealth he would not be heard.

Professor Charles P. Fagnani, D. D., gave a lively talk that was a healthy antidote for the overflow of sentiment from some of the others.

John Spargo spoke sensibly, warning against letting the religious side become dominant; and—autographing Socialist agitators against needlessly offending the religious feeling of those who find comfort in it.

Mrs. Stokes took issue with those who had found fault with class hatred, rightly saying that it was all very well to talk love and brotherhood while you were fairly comfortable, but misery and injustice naturally bred hatred. Mrs. Stokes has a simpering manner; a quiet dignity of expression would improve her as a speaker.

The writer did not go to scoff—nor did he remain to pray.

J. H.

Jersey City, December 15.

AN OBSERVATION ON THE CAT.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I have come across the following, by Mark Twain:

"We should be careful to get out of an experience only the wisdom that is in it—and stop there; lest we be like the cat that sits down on the hot stove-lid. She will never sit down on a hot stove-lid again, and that is well; but also she will never sit down on a cold one any more."

Must the Socialist or does the Socialist voter act like the cat between the S. P. and the S. L. P., and do the workingsmen who vote and meet failure also act like the cat and abandon political action altogether?

New York, Dec. 9.

FACTS FOR PRINTERS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I wish to mention a few facts in connection with the Typographical Union convention and the convention of the American Federation of Labor. This city, Colorado Springs, sent a man to the Typographical Union convention to speak upon the state, and this city in particular, as a health resort. The convention voted a sum of money to bring the A. F. of L. delegates here to look over the Printers' Home; be banqueted at the home and at the Elks' Club, taken around the city to see the sights in automobiles and carriages and for a general all around good time. The entire purpose was to boom the town, and the workers stood the expense.

The Printers' Home had an exhibit at the Tuberculosis Congress at Washington, D. C., showing what a model place their home was at Colorado Springs. Still, the annual report in the Typographical Journal will show that old men should not be brought to this high altitude where conditions for heart action are poor. It seems to me that the officers in the union look to bringing only such dead timber here as can no longer pay dues. It's an easy way of killing off such material.

There are plenty of printers who have

been inmates of this home who realize that a mistake was made in choosing this site. It has been intimated to me that the place is no more than a big advertisement, and that there was some graft in it for having the home located here. It is pointed out that the same inducements as were offered by this city were offered by a southern California town and by San Antonio, Texas, much better places than Colorado Springs, to locate there.

Colorado Springs, Colo., Nov. 28.

GILLHAUS IN PITTSBURG.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—We have been fortunate in getting Gillhaus in this neck of the woods again. He is just the right man in the right place. He came here on the 10th inst. and spoke to a fair audience at East Pittsburgh, where his lecture was well received. On the 15th inst. he spoke at Old City Hall, this city, and those present showed their interest by the close attention given to his every word.

From Pittsburgh we then left for New Castle, where the S. P. hall was secured as a gift. A fine audience turned out to hear the S. L. P. man's side, and after Gillhaus's address he was warmly complimented by some of the leading S. P. men present, who said, "This kind of address is certainly educational, and we, all of us, should be better Socialists and strive harder for the Socialist Republic along the lines laid down by the speaker." It is indeed a good omen for the working class to see those who differ so much, seemingly come out so enthusiastically in favor of our speakers. After the address a storm of applause greeted Gillhaus's conclusion.

Some very pointed questions were asked, and answered to the entire satisfaction of those present. It might be mentioned that one of the Socialists of New Castle is doing valiant work in getting out the Sue books and, also nearly all the Labor News Co. literature.

I would advise The People readers to get out the crowds for Gillhaus's meetings in his trip across the country, as I am sure that those who attend will be benefited.

E. R. Markley.

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 15.

TAFT PROSPERITY.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—There have been from six to seven hundred men employed at the Kingsbridge Car Shop of the Metropolitan Street Car Co., overhauling and changing the color of the cars. All of these men have been laid off, with the exception of about 20, since election. A large number of men have been dropped in another shop belonging to the same company in like manner. Many of these men have been working for the company from twelve to fifteen years. The lay-offs included carpenters, painters, wiremen, pipe fitters, truckmen, machinists, helpers, etc.

The general conditions in railway car repair and car building work in Greater New York and vicinity are worse than the writer has ever seen them before, having had fourteen years' experience in that line of work. There has been a tendency to speed up, to turn out more work with less men. Some railway shops have had the piecework system in force; in all of them prices have been cut. A saying among the men is: "Piecework is n. g. it spoils every shop." Another is: "They are not fit for a white man to work in." The men have to work like demons at piecework to average \$2.50 a day.

Not a single railway shop in Greater New York and vicinity is busy to-day. An ad. for car builders, painters, etc., would bring several thousand applications. The Met. St. R. R. was an exception on account of the excuse of being in the hands of receivers and, for some reason not known to the public, long neglected work had to be done. Conditions there reminded one of a battle extending over several months with men falling on all sides. Not a day passed that some one was not dropped for some slight offence or not being up to the mark of efficiency or some infraction of the rules, and hardly a week passed that some one was not hurt.

Some employers have said that the panic makes the workman more efficient. It's an ill wind that blows nobody good. There's hardly any good on earth that the capitalist class does not get the benefit of. Fellow workers, it can't be mended; it must be ended.

Brooklyn, Dec. 14.

\$1.00 BOOKS.

Physical Basis of Mind and Morals, Fitch.

Socialism and Philosophy, Labriola.

Essays Materialistic Conception of History, Labriola.

LETTER-BOX

OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANONYMOUS LETTERS. ALL LETTERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.

T. V. TROY, N. Y.—No one will throw up his hands because of "the break-down of the S. T. & L. A., and then of the I. W. W.," who knows the history of the Movement. How many Internationals rose and "broke down" before the present one? Each "break-down" resulted in a stronger because rounder organization. Ditto, ditto with the economic organization from which the revolutionary act is to come.

E. M. SPRINGFIELD, ILL.—Free Trade, or even Tariff Reform as an issue has no show of success. The railroads are leading beneficiaries of the tariff, and railroad magnates are stock-holders in protected industries. This renders the tariff a top-capitalist prop. None other will succeed nationally but that party which evokes, or is reflected by the national and revolutionary economic organization of Labor.

J. C. PHILA, PA.—Now to your third question—

The translator of the Eugene Sue historic novels never thought he would undertake the full job. Had he foreseen that the work would be left wholly to him he would have started with the first, and so on to the end. As it was, he simply took them up in the order of their importance to help students of Socialism to a wider range of class-struggle developments.

Next question next week.

C. M. T. CENTRAL FALLS, R. I.—

Now to your second question—Political government implies a social revolution. The accomplished revolution changed government from government of territory, through men, into government of men through territory. Government of territory through men implies democratic government. Government of men, through territory, implies autocratic rule. The original gentile or tribal government was democratic, from below up. The transition comes with the accumulation of property. Then came the toppling over; territory became the basis; property the qualification; and hence government from above down, or political government. The oncoming revolution returns society to government of territory through the government of men. That re-introduces democracy. The reason of this revolution is the fact of industrial requirements of which the Proletariat is the carrier.

Next question next week.

D. B. M. GRANITE, OKLA.—Now to your fourth and last question—

The interests of the wage earner and the small farmer, understanding by that their class interests, are not identical—any more than are the interests of the wage earner and the small factory or small shop man, and for identical reasons. The small factory and small shop man may and does work. He does not live on dividends. But he does not sell his labor power. He sells other goods. He may and he may not hire labor. If he does, his income consists of the price of his goods, in which are included his own labor, the labor of his wage slaves and his surplus value. Clearly, in such a case, his interest and that of his wage earners are not one. If he employs no wage earners, his earnings include only his own labor and his surplus value—a fact that separates him from the wage earner, who never pockets surplus value.

In a literary sense the small farmer, like the small shop keeper, is said to have the same interests as the wage earner, seeing both are kept with their noses to the grindstone. But the moment one gets into literature and away from science there is no end to sentiment. Hence there are Socialists who are seen weeping over the mental and moral hardships Rockefeller has to endure. That sort of thing is not organizable.

L. A. A. BUFFALO, N. Y.—Write to Fred Fellerman, 34 Elm St., Hartford, Conn.

B. S. F. CINCINNATI, O.—The place of music, singing, acting, in short, art, in the Socialist commonwealth will depend entirely upon the combined factors of material possibilities and of social inclination. If the private opinion of this office is wanted on so speculative a subject, we should say—the material possibilities will be so ample and the social instinct to appreciate the ennobling power of art will be so strong that art will be raised to the rank of a necessary of life.

E. L. NEWARK, N. J.—The blacklist is illegal, and the law is meant for the protection of the workingman. If, however, the Union itself practices the blacklist, then—well then—why, all that

can be said is: "Some more accumulated scores for the day of reckoning."

T. L. T. MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.—Frankly? Very frankly! What we think of Mr. W. J. Ghent's style and books? The books can be epitomized in the style, which goes "about and about and all the way round to nothing and nonsense."

E. F. BROOKLYN, N. Y.—There is no difficulty whatever in getting around the argument that women can not carry guns, hence should not handle politics. If it is so that politics lead to the use of guns, that should be the best reason to induct women into politics. Being unable to bear guns themselves, they would seek to abolish the necessity thereof. Speed the day.

A. P. TACOMA, WASH.—This office is perfectly willing to extend humility to the fullest extent, at only one price—that those towards whom the humility is extended drop the nonsense and rowdiness upon which capitalism stands securely. If they don't, then humility to them means the sustaining of capitalism. And that this office refuses to do.

A. S. S. JERSEY CITY, N. Y.—There are offences, which once committed, leave nothing but to cut away as the course most surely to save time. To overlook such offences is impossible; it would be a sharing in guilt; to argue with the offender only drives him deeper in the mire. The clearer the error of such offenders is made to them all the worse they hate you—because they hate themselves for their misdeed, and lack character to admit and turn over a new leaf.

J. K. NEW YORK.—Read the Daily People.

O. S. BROOKLYN, N. Y.—The difference between the "good S. L. P. men" and the "bad S. L. P. men"? The "good S. L. P. men" are dearies who allow themselves to be humbugged; the "bad S. L. P. men" are tyrants who knock down the would-be humbugger.

B. S. B. CHICAGO, ILL.—The election returns establish:

1. The Republican party is in to stay. The source of its strength is that, being the principal employer of labor, it can whip the labor vote into line. This circumstance also reveals the weakness of the "G. O. P.," and whence its eventual overthrow will come—the healthy revolutionary and integrally industrial economic organization of the proletariat.
2. The Democratic party is out to stay—at least nationally. Its weakness lies in its being, relatively, a small employer of labor. The circumstance of its being a capitalist party bars it from promoting the revolutionary economic organization of labor and thereby from availing itself of the Republican weakness.
3. The future lies with a party of revolutionary Socialism which takes the field equipped with that industrial economic organization of labor that can resist the scare of a "shut down," being itself ready to perform the "lock-out" act upon the capitalists. The Socialist party can not be that party. Its hands are tied by the A. F. of L. law of its existence. The identical scare that, again and again whipped labor away from Bryan, whipped and will continue to whip labor away from the S. P., hence it can be safely boomed by the Republican press.
4. The S. L. P. alone has the acorn substance for the oak to come. Whether that oak to come will bear the name "S. L. P." or not is immaterial. Certain it is that the promotion, in point of speediness and of quality, of that oak to come depends upon the fortitude of the present S. L. P.

All this, and this it is that the election returns establish.

Next question next week.

ALEXANDER BERKMAN, NEW YORK.—Some people can reason systematically without mental training. These are the privileged few. You are not among them. Get you a copy of Euclid. Drill your mind with it. A person who presumes to instruct the workers upon so important a matter as their emancipation should, if he does not respect himself, at least respect the Cause enough to first learn to think, if he cannot naturally think. However much you may date upon Anarchy in sociology, run away from anarchy in reasoning. Your irrationally incoherent and in-a-circle-reasoning letter is refused publication. Had

(Continued on page 6.)

OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Paul Augustine, National Secretary,
28 City Hall Place,
CANADIAN S. L. P.
National Secretary, Philip Courtenay,
144 Duchess Ave., London, Ont.
NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.
(The Party's literary agency.)
28 City Hall Place, N. Y. City.
Notice—For technical reasons no party
announcements can go in that are
not in this office by Tuesday, 10 p. m.

N. E. C. SUB-COMMITTEE.

The regular meeting of the N. E. C. Sub-Committee was held on Wednesday, December 16, at 28 City Hall Place. Members present—Malmberg, Lechner, Brauckmann, Hanlon, Hall, Schwartz, Rosenberg, Lafferty, Ball, Absent—Hammer, Kihn, Schraft, Oatley, Butterworth and Archer. Hanlon elected chairman.

Minutes of previous meeting read and adopted.
Correspondence—From Chas. Spier, Somerville, N. J., offering copyright on book which he has written. Secretary instructed to answer.

From Organizer Lettish Socialist Federation, stating that said body has decided by a referendum vote to join the S. L. P. Filed.

From Hossack, Sec'y N. J. Correspondence Bureau, explaining plan of work undertaken and giving encouraging information. Filed.

From Gillhaus, Youngstown, O., giving information regarding agitation and other matters, and sending financial report. Filed.

From J. A. Leach, Phoenix, Ariz., answering letter of National Secretary in regard to Graf and giving information. Filed.

From Anderson, Denver, Col., stating that J. W. Billings has been elected as N. E. C. member for the state of Colo. Filed.

From Hartung, Newark, N. J., giving information. Answered and filed.

From Gillhaus, Washington, D. C., giving information regarding agitation in Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington. Answered and filed.

From Colo. State Committee, sending copy of circular letter sent to sympathizers in state. Filed.

From H. E. Long, San Francisco, inquiring whether Jager can be sent on a tour to the Pacific Coast, and offering to keep him in the field when he arrives there. Moved by Hall, seconded by Malmberg, to inform Section San Francisco regarding conditions under which Jager will go there. Carried unanimously.

From Jos. Schlitt, Portland, Ore., giving information regarding general matters. Filed.

From Manager of Daily People rendering report regarding Party plant and giving financial report. Filed.

The National Secretary read copies of letters sent out by him to Party sympathizers. Concurred in.

From Manager of Der Arbeiter, requesting addresses of Section Organizers. Moved by Lafferty, seconded by Lechner, to grant request. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Lafferty, seconded by Lechner to instruct secretary to call a meeting of Sub-Committee for Dec. 30th. Carried unanimously.

Meeting then adjourned at 8:30 p. m. Max Rosenberg, Secretary.

NEW JERSEY S. E. C.

Regular meeting held in Jersey City, Sunday, December 15th. Present—Landgraf, McGarry, Schwenck, Gerold and Hossack of the S. E. C. Correspondence Bureau. McGarry, chairman; in the absence of the secretary Hossack was elected to serve for the meeting.

Correspondence—Plainfield, vote on N. E. C. member; Elizabeth, vote on N. E. C. member; C. A. Berg, formerly of Brooklyn, on transferring to Section Passaic County; from Section Essex County, on Party matters, agents for Party press, etc.; from Organizer Passaic County, on connections in city of Passaic; from readers of Party papers in Dover, Crawford, Rutherford, Garfield, Bayonne, Passaic and Somerville, in answer to communication from S. E. C. Correspondence Bureau. From P. Merquelin, Plainfield, \$1 for Correspondence Bureau; from Zimmerman, Hoboken, on Party matters; from Ernest Slack, Paterson, People agent, in pushing Party press.

Landgraf reported vote of Passaic County on N. E. C. member. Hossack and Schwenck elected as committee to call in vote on N. E. C. member from Sections Hoboken, Essex County, and South Hudson, to canvass same and issue credential to the one chosen. Rudolph Katz and Charles Schraft are the candidates.

Secretary of Correspondence Bureau reported on his work. He was instructed to write Sections on matters pertaining

ing to next convention, and Correspondence Bureau. Sections take notice that national campaign lists must be in hands of the S. E. C. at its next meeting.

The S. E. C. endorsed an address to the working class, to be submitted to the next meeting of the N. E. C., for its consideration, by the member from New Jersey.

The S. E. C. urges upon the Sections that the important work is to spread education through the medium of the Party Press.

XMAS BOX

Although otherwise indifferent to social problems, Santa Claus knows and appreciates the value of The People as a champion of the working class and has come to its aid this week with a liberal contribution to our Xmas Box. Long may he live and continue doing good work!

C. Ruby, Rochester, N. Y.	50
John Sweeney, Boston, Mass.	2.00
Geo. Nelson, Boston, Mass.	2.00
C. F. Frederickson, Boston, Mass.	2.00
J. Schneider, Boston, Mass.	1.00
P. Bombach, Boston, Mass.	1.00
C. E. Nylen, New York	2.00
Branch 1, Kings Co., New York	5.00
M. H.	2.00
Section Allentown, Pa.	5.00
Mary Solomon, New York	1.00
Collection at meeting of Section Cleveland, Ohio	3.25
Section Rockville, Conn.	5.00
D. H. Schoneker, Jersey City, N. J.	50
Total	\$2.25
Previously acknowledged	\$9.85
Grand total	\$43.05

START 1909 RIGHT.

The New Year is generally regarded as a good time to begin things. Here are a few suggestions to Weekly People readers of things they might start in to do with the beginning of 1909.

Start getting one subscription a month to the Weekly People. That is not a difficult task.

If you can afford one cent a day, start taking the Daily People, by remitting one dollar for a three months' subscription to begin with the New Year.

Should you be a member of the party, start the New Year by regularly attending meetings, and keeping your dues paid up.

Should you not be a member of the party, start the New Year by becoming a member. Write to Paul Augustine, 28 City Hall Place, New York, for information as to joining.

Begin the New Year with the resolve to do your whole duty as a Socialist.

Begin the New Year by following any or all of these suggestions and you will begin it right.

OPERATING FUND.

Geo. F. Spettel, St. Paul, Minn.	\$5.00
Section Passaic County, N. J.	5.00
H. Kref, Detroit, Mich.	3.00
J. Larson, New Haven, Conn.	2.00
Julius Vandoorne, Lawrence, Mass.	50
Section Holyoke, Mass.	3.00
H. Cody, Cristobal, Panama	10.00
"Come Again,"	5.00
Joe, Wiser,	1.00
18th & 20th A. D., New York	50
Chas. Rudolph, Newport News, Va.	50
E. S., Newport News, Va.	1.00
Peter Faber, Kent, Ohio	1.00
Holger Schmalfuss, Pittsfield, Mass.	50
Samuel Rohrbach, Reading, Pa.	1.00
E. M. Scanavino, Tuolumne, Cal.	50
Hugo Preuss, Newark, N. J.	2.00
John P. Wardrop, Yale, B. C.	2.00
Anthony Strenger, So. Norwalk, Conn.	50
Total	\$44.30
Previously acknowledged	\$325.94
Grand Total	\$370.24

Something good for our German reading comrades and friends.

"DER TRUNKENBOLD"

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Von Richard Koepfel.

Instructive. Interesting. Entertaining.

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Cleveland Labor News Agency,
1366 Ontario St., Cleveland, O.

The People is a good broom to brush the cobwebs from the minds of the workers. Buy a copy and pass it around.

PACKAGE PARTY FOR PHILADELPHIANS.

A Grand Rally and Package Party for the benefit of the Daily and Weekly People will be given by the combined sections of the Socialist Labor Party in Philadelphia, on SUNDAY, December 27, at 7 p. m. Hungarian Socialist Labor Federation Headquarters, 505 Parrish street.

Boris Reinstein, of Buffalo, and L. Basky of Philadelphia, will deliver short addresses during the evening.

A good entertainment is guaranteed. Come and bring your wives and don't forget the packages. Ten cents will be charged for wardrobe checks.

We will endeavor to do our share towards the support of the party press.
R. McLure.

UNCLE SAM AND BROTHER JONATHAN.

(Continued from page 4)

Increased number of the unemployed?

B. J.—Exactly.

U. S.—Only for that evil you would admit concentration of production was a good thing?

B. J.—Yes, I would.

U. S.—Now, answer me this last question; around it everything else turns: "Is the evil in this case something that can not be separated from the good?"

B. J.—Well—

U. S.—I'll answer for you. "No!" The evil CAN be separated. It is not necessary that hunger should go hand in hand with increased production.

B. J.—How would you prevent it?

U. S.—By removing the cause.

B. J.—And what may that be?

U. S.—The private ownership of the means of production. Through that poverty commences, and it increases at the rate in which fewer and fewer persons get possession of the machinery of production.

B. J.—And then?

U. S.—If the whole people in their collective capacity owned the instruments of production, through their central administrative organs, then the evil would stop.

B. J.—How?

U. S.—Because production would be carried on for use, and not for profit, as it is under private ownership.

B. J.—And if fewer and fewer hands are needed?

U. S.—Instead of dismissing them, the hours of work would be reduced all around.

B. J.—That would be fine.

U. S.—And are not the workers to blame if things continue as they are?

B. J.—I don't quite see that.

U. S.—Have not the workers the overwhelming majority of votes?

B. J.—I grant you all. You are right from start to finish.

U. S.—The day the workers vote for themselves instead of voting for the Democratic and Republican parties; that day they go in a body into the Socialist Labor Party and thereby vote themselves into power, that day the evil will be removed and only the blessing remain.

B. J.—I agree with you.

U. S.—The Trust is a good thing; it is in the line of evolution; we must help evolution along, and place the Trust in the hands of the workers.

LETTER-BOX.

(Continued from page 5.)

it been shorter it would have been published as an exposure of your intellect.

E. J. B. G., MALDEN, MASS.—Keep away from all pools and stock speculations. The Wall Street sharks are over out with their rod and line to pick up dopes.

W. G. A., HEYWOOD, ENG.—As to questions 1 and 2 you will by this time have found them answered in The People.

As to question No. 3—

Of course not, the report of affairs in the "Industrial Bulletin" of October 10 was stupidly untrue—so stupidly that a refutation was not worth bothering with.

Next question next week.

A. J. NEW YORK.—The election returns on the Presidential vote published in The People are taken exclusively from the official reports that are being received at this office from day to day from the Secretaries of States. The "Volkszeitung" figures are fakes; those in the "Call" have several inaccuracies.

A. B. McE., MANCHESTER, VA.; H. K., NEW YORK; E. R. M., PITTSBURG, PA.; D. G., DOVER, DEL.; E. S. S., EL PASO, TEX.; G. G., READING, PA.; F. C. R., WEWOKA, OKLA.; A. S. D., DES MOINES, IA.—Matter received.

When you have read this paper, pass it on to a friend.

BUSINESS NOTES

The demand this week for lists of subscribers in their locality by the Section literary agents all over the country indicates that the Party membership has awakened to the necessity for pushing The People. It is the education imparted from week to week that counts in making the Socialists whose straight vote can always be depended upon. Get subscribers to the Daily and Weekly People and thereby build up the Party organization and the vote. Those sending in two or more:

30th and 32nd A. D., New York	2
C. Fallath, Elizabeth, N. J.	4
Fred Brown, Cleveland, Ohio	4
D. Rudnick, Chicago, Ill.	3
C. M. Nilson, Isleton, Cal.	2
Geo. Sterry, Providence, R. I.	6
C. H. Chase, New York	2

A. Wallin, Quincy, Mass.	2
C. A. Ruby, Rochester, N. Y.	2
C. E. Warner, New Haven, Conn.	2
M. Ruther, Holyoke, Mass.	4
Chas. Pierson, Chicago, Ill.	4
F. Bombach, Jamaica Plain, Mass.	2
E. Hauk, Buffalo, N. Y.	2
E. J. Kern, San Francisco, Cal.	4
Section Denver, Colo.	5
J. Breuer, Hartford, Conn.	10
D. McGoff, New Bedford, Mass.	2
9th and 11th A. D., New York	6
A. Gillhaus, Youngstown, Ohio	4
T. Gorham, Pittsburg, Pa.	2
L. Olson, Tacoma, Wash.	2

Prepaid Cards:—F. A. Uhl, Pittsburg, Pa., \$3; L. Olson, Tacoma, Wash., \$2.50; Geo. Hasseler, Detroit, Mich., \$15; E. Hauk, Buffalo, N. Y., \$2.10; Colo. S. E. C., \$5.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND CRIME

AND THE ONLY PRACTICAL WAY TO ABOLISH BOTH.

In the eyes of most people the unemployed are the worst of criminals; and if one of their number commits a crime, the whole of them are condemned. The system denies the worker the right to earn his livelihood, and then condemns him to get off the earth. Unemployment, poverty, and want are the result of the capitalist mode of production; without the means of obtaining shelter, homes despoiled, men and women become nomads, wanderers on the face of the earth, whose home is the public highway and byway. And now it is proposed that they be driven from these public places. But where they are to go is not stated. The Socialists, after all, are the only practical people in this lopsided world. In Socialism lies the remedy for unemployment and want, and all that flows therefrom. There is only one place that they can drive them to and that is into the sea. Even this would only culminate in failure to blot out the evil. Socialism is the only hope; all else illusion.

"There is nothing impossible only that men's minds are not made up.—Confucius.

"In every organism the parts exist for the sake of the whole, not the whole for the sake of the parts. The parts have no meaning except in their relation to the whole.—Aristotle.

KEEP UP-TO-DATE.

If you want to be up-to-date in the Socialist Movement you must keep in touch with events day by day. This you can do at little cost—just about one cent a day. Subscribe for the Daily People, one dollar for three months.

If you have never known the value of it, now is the time to make a trial.

DAILY PEOPLE.

P. O. Box, 1576, New York.

REINSTEIN IN BALTIMORE.

December 29.—At Labor Lyceum, 1011-1013 E. Baltimore Avenue. Room 5, 8 p. m. Lecture: "Shall Jan Janoff Pouren be sent back to Russia to be murdered by the Czar?" and "The Mission of the Socialist Labor Party." Lecturer will speak in Russian language.

REINSTEIN IN PHILADELPHIA.

December 27.—At New Pennsylvania Hall, 928 S. 6th street, 2 p. m. sharp. Debate between Mrs. Dr. Conleow of the S. P., and Boris Reinstein, of the S. L. P.

NOTICE, SECTION VANCOUVER, B. C.

As no communications have been received in this office from Section Vancouver, S. L. P., since June, 1908, although several letters have been sent to R. Baker, 1319 Howe street, it is desirable that some member of the Section, seeing this notice would please communicate with Philp Courtenay, National Secretary, S. L. P., of Canada, 144 Duchess Avenue, London, Ont.

CONCERT AND LITERARY EVENING.

A grand concert and literary evening will be given by the Jewish Socialist Labor Society of New York at Excelsior Society Hall, 235 East Broadway, on Friday evening, December 25, 1908, at 8 o'clock.

Ticket, admitting one, ten cents. All S. L. P. men and sympathizers desiring to spend a Merry Christmas should attend this affair.

The New York Labor News Company is the literary agency of the Socialist Labor Party. It prints nothing but sound Socialist literature.

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NEW YEARS' EVE, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31st, 1908

GOOD MUSIC

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RAILROAD MUST STAND GOOD.

Austin, Tex., December 10.—It was held yesterday by the Supreme Court that a sheriff has no authority to appoint or to detail deputies to act as guard and watchman of the property of a railroad company, and that the railroad company is responsible for the acts of such guard or deputy, especially when the railroad company is paying the salary of such guard or watchman.

This holding was made in the case of the Texas and New Orleans Railway against Rush J. Parsons, from Harris county, which case was affirmed.

It appears the sheriff of Orange county had appointed two deputies to watch the property of the railroad company at Echo, and one of them, named Futch, shot and wounded Parsons, believing him to be a trespasser. Parsons sued the company, and recovered damages in the trial court; and the judgment of that court was affirmed, as well as that of the court civil appeals.

The court also held that Futch was really in the employ of the railroad company, and the company was liable for his acts, notwithstanding the fact that he had been deputized by the sheriff to watch the property of the company.

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